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ERSHAD, OTHERS LAUD NEW BENGALI ISLAMIC ENCYCLOPEDIA

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 18 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad, has emphasised the need for projecting dependable and documentary information about the contributions made by the Muslims in the fields of knowledge and science, reports BSS.

The CMLA said that the remarkable contributions made by the Muslim scholars and scientists for centuries in the fields of politics, social science, economics, arts, culture, literature, architecture and particularly for the revival of moral values were fundamental in the one hand and varied and comprehensive on the other.

In a message on the occasion of the publication ceremony of Shorter Encyclopaedia of Islam in Bengali on Friday General Ershad said that the history of the world civilisation and knowledge was enriched by the Muslim scholars and scientists. Today, time has come when we should project their achievements to the confused human society, he added.

The CMLA described the publication of the encyclopaedia as a bold step and an example of progress in the field of publication in Bangladesh and expressed the confidence that it would encourage the people of the country to dedicate themselves in the pursuit of knowledge.

General Ershad lauded the initiative taken by the Islamic Foundation and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for publishing the encyclopaedia and hoped that they would continue their cooperation to fulfil the demand of the knowledge seekers and to enrich further the treasure of knowledge of the human society.

Launching Ceremony

A Bengali "Shorter Encyclopaedia of Islam", first of its kind for 120 million Bengali speaking Muslims, was formally launched on Friday amid much enthusiasm at the Engineers Institute auditorium.

Education and Religious Affairs Minister Dr. Majeed Khan, who was the chief guest at the launching function, termed the publication of the encyclopaedia as the memorable event for the Muslim-majority Bangladesh. He

said that it was the beginning of a new trend of integration of Islamic tenets and thoughts in the life, culture and education of this country.

Background

The need for compilation of an Islamic encyclopaedia in Bengali had been felt for a long time. The Bangla Academy in 1958 decided to undertake Bengali translation of shorter encyclopaedia of Islam published from Lyden. A nine-member subcommittee was constituted for this purpose with Moulana Abdullah Kaafi Al-Qurashi as its Chairman. It was reconstituted in 1962 with Dr. Mahmud Hossain, the then Vice-Chancellor of Dacca University as its Chairman. The committee was again reconstituted in 1963 with Dr. Syed Moazzem Hossain, former Vice-Chairman of Dacca University as its Chairman. The reconstituted committee had 16 members including Dr. Serajul Haque, Dr. A. B. M. Habibullah, Dr. Mofizullah Kabir and Syed Ali Ahsan. Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah was the Editor-in-Charge of the Bengali Islamic Encyclopaedia.

691 Articles

After working for eight and a half years the sub-committee completed its task in 1967. The manuscript prepared by it contained 691 articles including Bengali translation of 508 articles of Shorter Encyclopaedia of Islam, revised translation of 111 articles from the same and 37 articles translated from Urdu Encyclopaedia of Islam and 35 original articles.

The Shorter Encyclopaedia of Islam in Bengali was published with the financial assistance from Islamic Solidarity Fund and Government of Bangladesh. A lump sum grant of the Government of Iraq was also provided to the Islamic Foundation for publication of the encyclopaedia.

Complete Book Soon

Dr. Majeed Khan said that in the absence of a Bengali encyclopaedia we had to depend and quote the international scholars most of whom did not belong to our religion, our religious heritage and traditions". He said that the publication of the Bengali Encyclopaedia of Islam would now "help us in knowing ourselves through the eyes of our scholars".

The Education Minister hoped that a complete encyclopaedia in 20 volumes would be completed soon. The Islamic Foundation had already taken up a project of compiling a bigger encyclopaedia of Islam running into 20 volumes which had been included in the Second Five-Year Plan of the country.

CSO: 4600/1034

ERSHAD MESSAGE TO UNITED NATIONS CONDEMNS ISRAEL

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 21 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad has sent a message to the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar conveying Bangladesh's deepest anguish at the latest Israeli savagery in West Beirut reports BSS.

In his message the CMLA said "We in Bangladesh along with the people of all peace-loving nations have been stunned by the appalling act of inhuman massacre of a large number of innocent and unarmed Palestinian men, women and children in shelter in the camps in West Beirut".

This General Ershad said constituted the most monstrous of the continuing acts of atrocities perpetrated against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. "While conveying Bangladesh's deepest anguish at such a savagery we urge Your Excellency to use your good offices in ensuring immediate measures towards ending the Israeli occupation of West Beirut and withdrawal of her forces forthwith from Lebanon in pursuant to the U.N. and Security Council resolutions".

Bangladesh the CMLA said also urged urgent adoption of such other measures as were necessary to ensure the security and safety of the Palestinians and the Lebanese people. "We assure your excellency of our fullest support in your efforts" he added.

CSO: 4600/1040

ERSHAD OPENS REGIONAL HEALTH MINISTERS' MEET

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 22 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad inaugurated the second meeting of the Health Ministers of WHO South-East Asia region on Tuesday stressing the need for exchanging information and sharing the experiences to translate the regional cooperation on health into "concrete programmes of activity."

Wishing the success of the meeting the CMLA said that health was an "important investment in human capital" and he hoped that the Dacca conference would be able to identify fruitful areas of cooperation on health among the member states of the South-East Asia region. He observed that health was important not only as a social objective of giving a better quality of life to the people but also as an economic objective of obtaining a productive manpower. He assured the visiting Health Ministers of his government's eagerness and readiness to contribute its utmost to the process of regional cooperation for building a healthy and happy society.

Reiterating his government's firm commitment to the goal of "health for all by the year 2000" the CMLA said that as a preliminary step the Government intended to provide minimum primary health care facilities to everyone especially to those living in the rural areas. He said that the priorities had been realigned accordingly and programmes had been taken to build up a physical infrastructure, train adequate health manpower and develop a system for delivery of essential drugs, equipment and supplies to thana health complexes and family welfare centres. These units he added were designed to play key role in the integrated delivery of curative, preventive and family health needs in the rural areas.

The CMLA appreciated the help and assistance Bangladesh received from the UN agencies including WHO and other international organisations in the health sector. He however said that the available resources fell far short of our needs and emphasised the need for further regional and international cooperation for ensuring minimum primary health care for the majority of the population.

The CMLA said that Bangladesh was now engaged in restructuring its goals and priorities and rationalising the national resources. This had prompted

he added to lay the infrastructure of a society based on equity and fair-play where the goal is to gradually reduce the gap between the rich and the poor. "We cannot allow a situation to continue where the bulk of the population living in villages remains deprived of the basic health needs" he declared.

Overemphasising the need for family planning and population control programme the CMLA said that a high rate of population growth imposed on our resources and existing facilities. He disclosed that a two-year emergency plan for population control and family planning was being formulated by his government.

In his address of welcome Health Minister Major General M. Shamsul Haq who is also the Chairman of the second Health Ministers meeting of WHO South-East Asia Region hoped that the Dacca meeting would be able to take stock of the health situation of the respective countries and be also to formulate policies for effective cooperation and take joint efforts for giving minimum basis health care to all the people.

Addressing the meeting the Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia Region Dr. U To Ko thanked the Government of Bangladesh for hosting the second meeting of the Health Ministers of the WHO South-East Asia Region. He believed that the goal of "health for all by the year 2000" could be achieved only if the political leaders perceive and pursue a unity of purpose not only nationally but also regionally and internationally.

The inaugural session of the meeting was attended by six Health Ministers from the six countries out of the 12-member WHO South-East Asia Region and the rest nations are represented by high-level officials. Mr. Siddiquir Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Health, also addressed the meeting as the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the 35th session of the WHO Region Commit- concluded in Dacca on Monday. [as published]

CSO: 4600/1044

ERSHAD SPEAKS AT SUBMARINE CHASER COMMISSIONING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad said in Dacca on Friday that the nation must have a strong navy to ensure free movement within its maritime boundary to maintain the process of economic progress of the people, reports BSS.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony of a submarine chaser of Bangladesh Navy--BNS Durjoy--the CMLA said in view of the country's long coastal belt and geographic and economic reasons an efficient Navy is a necessity.

General Ershad, who is also Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, said that the addition of this new ship to the Navy would enable the naval force to play yet a stronger role in guarding the maritime boundary and the sovereignty of the country as a whole.

He said that the navy had been protecting the sovereignty of the maritime boundary on one hand and helping the economy to grow on the other. "I am watching with pride that our brave sailors who have been safeguarding our maritime area with strong determination and undaunted courage have earned respect and love from their fellow countrymen," he added.

The CMLA pointed out that the maritime area of the country had great potentials from the economic point of view which he observed was equally precious like that of the main land. We must exploit the marine resources to make the country's overall economy more dynamic, he added.

General Ershad said that the members of the armed forces were determined to perform the responsibilities reposed in them by the people. He said that every citizen--military and civilian--should work shoulder to shoulder for the materialisation of the dream of building a new Bangladesh. "Inshallah, we shall be able to emancipate the people working with patriotism, sincerity, honesty, efficiency, faith and strong determination."

The CMLA expressed the hope that the submarine chaser--BNS Durjoy--would further strengthen the bond of cooperation between Bangladesh and China. He conveyed his sincere thanks to the people and the government of China for extending their hands of cooperation and friendship.

Earlier, speaking on the occasion, the DCMLA and Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said that the members of the Bangladesh Navy were pledge-bound to make any sacrifices for unity, integrity and progress of the country in the days to come as they had set up example of highest sense of dedication and discipline in discharging their duties in the past.

He called upon the naval personnel to take appropriate care and make best use of the ships and other equipment which were acquired with the hard earned money of the people. Availability of armaments is not the last word for attaining efficiency of an armed force, rather proper utilisation of the resources in hand in right time can bring success.

Admiral Khan urged the members of the Navy to come forward with bold steps and newer zeal along with members of other forces and the people to build a new Bangladesh at the call given by the Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad.

The DCMLA recalled the praiseworthy participation of the navy in preserving and exploiting the marine resources and said, our naval officers and personnel have been performing the responsibility reposed in them to take the country on the road to progress and prosperity.

On his arrival at the BIWTA terminal at Sadarghat, the CMLA was received by Rear Admiral M. A. Khan.

General Ershad was then presented a guard of honour by a smart contingent of ship's company.

The Chief of the Naval Staff read out the commissioning "forman" of BNS Durjoy. A prayer followed for the overall development of the country.

The CMLA inspected the ship and went round its different sections.

The commanding officer of the ship presented General Ershad with a crest of the ship.

The CMLA later also presented a crest of Bangladesh Army to the ship's company while the Chief of Naval Staff presented him with a model of the ship.

The ceremony was attended, among others by the members of the Council of Ministers, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Bangladesh and high civil and military officials.

CSO: 4600/1025

WRITER EXAMINES SLOW TREND IN FOREIGN TRADE SECTOR

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 12 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Jaglul Alam]

[Text] Due to a sluggish trend in the economy, the projected target in import and export during the first two months of the current fiscal year could not be achieved.

Taking into account that 2955 crore takas of import and 1550 crore takas of export are the government's target in 1982-83, the country would have earned an export revenue of 258.33 crore takas and import commodities worth 492.52 crore takas during July-August 1982. The total export during the same time however stood at 181.19 crore takas and total import at only 61.91 crore takas.

The achievement during those two months was 70.12 percent and 12.55 percent in terms of export and import respectively compared to the target set for the period.

It was also expected that during the period 125 crore takas of foreign exchange would be utilized under the wage earners' scheme (WES), but the letters of credit opened during the period on WES amounted to only 61.8 crore takas or less than 50 percent.

Import of both commercial items and industrial raw materials during the first two months of the current fiscal year fell because of acute shortage of foreign exchange components in the government's fund.

It is learnt that during the period no letter of credit was opened on cash license since the government could not provide the importers with foreign exchange against the licenses of traders.

At the same time no trade on barter was initiated by the traders during the period under review since the traders were not assured of foreign exchange to be paid on down payment even at the rate of 10 percent of the total imported consignment as provisioned under the barter system.

During the period under review import on deferred payment system was also negligible. It is learnt that foreign exporters are now demanding over 20

percent interest on trade under deferred payment while the government during the announcement of import policy for the year declared that no traders would be allowed to pay more than 18 percent on interest for their consignments imported on deferred payment.

The quantity of import also fell due to a slow trend in the international markets of the country. It is felt by traders' representatives that a majority of the consumers are now suffering from poor income and they are consequently losing their buying capacity (HOLIDAY, September 5).

According to a source, commodities worth over 60 crore takas imported last year under open general license and WES have been lying in Chittagong port since the importers are reluctant to take delivery of their goods.

Many of those commodities were imported under emergency allotments issued by the previous government, it is gathered.

The bulk of the consignments imported during the first two months of the current fiscal period under wage earner's scheme included commercial items like edible oil, salt, cotton, textiles, cement, transportation vehicles, while only a negligible portion of the total consignment was raw material for the industrial sector.

It may be recalled that last year commodities worth over 600 crore takas were imported under WES and government had set a raised target for WES at 750 crore takas for 1982-83.

Crisis in the export sector is prevailing due to fall in the export price of jute goods. During the first two months of the current fiscal year jute goods of over 50 thousand long tons worth 50.15 crore takas were exported from Bangladesh as against 91.59 crore takas of export earning from jute goods during the corresponding period of the previous year.

In terms of volume however, there has been an increase in jute goods export.

Fall in the export price of jute goods is attributed to the prevailing recession in the global economy.

Last year government set the target of jute goods export at 534 crore takas. But due to different reasons the country earned only 568 crore takas and incurred a loss of over 66 crore takas.

This year the target is to earn 690 crore takas from jute goods export and the expected target for the period under review was 115 crore takas.

Falling Trade

Besides jute products, export of raw jute, leather and tea also deteriorated in terms of money during the first month of the current fiscal year compared to the export of the same items during the corresponding period of the previous year.

In July 1981 raw jute worth 8.12 crore takas was exported from Bangladesh; it came down to 7.70 crore takas during July, 1982. In July '81 leather amounting to 15.02 crore takas was exported; it decreased by 70 percent in July '82 when leather worth 4.65 crore takas was exported.

Similarly during the same period export of tea in terms of money also fell by almost 35 lakh takas.

However, during the same time export of frozen food and naptha registered an improvement. In July 1981 frozen food worth 4.81 crore takas was exported. In July 1982 the earning increased by 9.10 crore takas to 13.91 crore takas.

During July 1982, naptha worth 5.95 crore takas was exported while during the corresponding period of last year not even a single consignment of naptha was exported.

/Last week a meeting between the Ministry of Commerce and controlling authorities of exports and imports was held in which the overall trading situation of the country was discussed.

/In the meeting the vice-chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau pointed out that due to fall in import, the export sector is also being affected.

/He said that the sea-going vessels which bring the imported commodities are generally chartered for exporting items abroad. But since import has considerably decreased crisis is also prevailing in the export sector because the exporters are not getting enough space for exporting their consignments./ [in boldface]

He also said that at one stage the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, which lends its sea-going vessels to foreign parties on charter, was requested by the export promotion authorities to release its ships for exporting goods from Bangladesh.

But the BSC declined on the ground that during their return voyage the ships would have no consignments since import into the country has fallen.

Instead the BSC suggested that it would allow its ships for export provided the exporters chartered the vessels both ways.

Funds Released

Recently the government released a small amount of foreign exchange for opening letters of credit under cash licenses. It is learnt that another fund will shortly be released for importing goods under the barter system.

A spokesman in the office of the controller of export and import said that after releasing the funds the import sector is likely to get some momentum and it can help the present situation both in the import and export sectors.

A spokesman of the Dacca Chamber of Commerce said that recently an amount of 273 crore takas of untaxed money has been declared in which over 3.70 crore takas were in foreign exchange. He said that even if a portion of this amount is invested in the trading sectors of the country it could bring improvement to the country's economy.

CSO: 4600/1030

'INADEQUATE SUPPORT' TO DISINVESTED INDUSTRIES NOTED

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 12 Sep 82 p 3

[Article by Jaglul Alam]

[Text] Although the government had disinvested about 96 industries some six years back, most of those industries which include tea gardens, drum metal factories, aluminium factories, rubber processing factories, tanneries etc. are facing great problems on account of financial constraints and inadequate support of the government.

Originally it was decided that the buyers of the industries would pay the price of their respective industries in nine years. But later on it was finalized that they should pay the outstanding amounts within three years in the case of developed industries and four years in the case of less developed industries.

However, in each case a period of one year was allowed as grace period for the repayment of outstanding debts.

The buyers of those industries demanded withdrawal of penal interests in case of failure of repayment of debts in time. But the government imposed a penal interest at the rate of seven percent counting from 1976.

Meanwhile many of the owners have already closed the operation of the industries due to acute shortage of running capital. It is learnt that many of the buyers in 1976 were assured that they would receive substantial amounts of bank loans for their industries but later the assurances were broken.

It is learnt that announcement on disinvestment of 10 tea gardens was made in 1976 but due to the lengthy official formalities those tea gardens are yet to be transferred to the buyers. Most of the tea gardens have their problems of litigation, boundary disputes and other constraints for which the handover process could not be done in time.

It is gathered that some days back the ministry of industry requested the district administrators of the respective tea garden areas to expedite the handover process but no action has yet been taken by them in this regard.

Last week the representatives of the buyers of the disinvested industries held a meeting with the minister for industries for the redressal of their long outstanding problems. It is learnt that the meeting did not yield any fruitful result.

A representative of the owners of the disinvested industries said that they would hold their annual general meeting on 17 September at Dacca to find out and determine their next course of action.

CSO: 4600/1030

PAPER REPORTS 99 PERCENT COMMODITY AID UNUSED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 21 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Alamgir Hossain]

[Text]

Precious Foreign aid remains stuck up at the External Resources Division (ERD). Every year 99 per cent of the new commodity aid is not being utilized. But it has become a regular phenomenon for an official to make foreign trips almost daily.

Only because of widespread agitation over the rise in food price ninety per cent of food aid given for a year is utilized in the year. Sometimes the utilization of food aid crosses the allocation of a year requiring a portion of future allocation or a portion from other sectors.

On the other hand the project and commodity aid are lying unutilized for years together as the utilization of project and commodity aid is painstaking.

Pending utilisation the remaining portion of the commodity and project aid received in the yester years cannot be utilized totally even in the twelve months of the next year. And hence the question of utilizing the aid received against new commitment hardly arises. Unutilized at all it is one or two per cent in the case of project aid and to 20 to 22 per cent in the case of commodity aid.

Failure of the concerned quarters to intensify the development activities of the country through utilization of the project and commodity aids has compelled them to admit at last that the unusual delay in undertaking a project gives rise to acute problem to the flow of foreign aid.

The projects are not prepared in due time. If prepared it is done so haphazardly, that its consideration quits naturally runs into snags and the process of approving the project becomes unbearably dilatory.

Consequently, when the projects are submitted after preparation the eagerness of the donors to provide aid evaporates. Instead of detecting the reason of this critical situation in the mentality and inability of the officials entrusted with the responsibility of utilizing the foreign aid the ERD has attributed it in a book to the delay in forming the project committee, selecting and appointing people, acquiring land and approving the projects.

It has been admitted in the book that even if slight revision is required for the project it cannot be done instantly. This situation arises as the issues of

of budget allocation, appointment of employees and expenditures including their salary are associated with the revision of the project papers.

Despite identification of these uneasy and acute problems no step is taken in the subsequent budget to solve them.

Thus the unutilised loans in the pipeline in the beginning of July 1981 amounted to 312.51 crore dollars. This include 6 crore dollars food aid, 36 crore dollars commodity aid and 270 crore dollars project aid. In the fiscal year 1980-81 only 25 per cent of the project aid and a mere 2 per cent of the fresh committed project aid was available. The percentage of actual utilisation of the project aid was almost the same every year. The project assistance could not be utilised because of certain problems which are beyond imagination. But the ERD described this rate of utilisation of project aid as most satisfactory.

About 93 per cent of the project aid amounting to 42 crore dollars accumulated in the pipeline by 1980-81 was utilised. Only 23 per cent of the fresh committed amount was utilised. The ERD felt that the entire amount should have been

utilised. Utilisation of the assistance provided by IDA, ADB, West Germany and Netherlands who are the major donors. The commitment of fresh aid is usually based on the performance of utilisation.

In fact utilisation of commodity aid is hampered because of delay in procuring the goods and commodities. Besides, authorities find it difficult to finance the local currency.

All these factors contributed to the accumulation of 328 crore

dollars assistance in the pipeline during the current year when there is a fresh commitment of 131 crore dollars. The relevant authorities are moving around in search of aid while 459 crore dollars are lying utilised.

CSO: 4600/1043

PAPER GIVES DETAILS OF NEW JAPANESE LOANS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 21 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Bangladesh will receive approximately Taka 229.17 crore (27.50 billion yen) as commodity and project loan from Japan during the current fiscal year under an exchange of note signed between the two countries in Dacca on Monday says BSS.

The loans will be available for utilisation after signing of formal loan agreements in Tokyo between the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan and the Government of Bangladesh soon.

Of the total amount Taka 150 crore will be treated as commodity loan and the rest 79.17 crore as project loan.

Both the loans are repayable in 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and bear an interest rate of 1.25 per cent per annum.

The exchange of note was signed by Mr. Shafiul Alam, Additional Secretary of External Resources Division and Mr. Toru Iwanami, Charge D'affaires of Embassy of Japan on behalf of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF).

The commodity loan, which is unutilised and has to be disbursed within two years from the date of signing of loan agreement will be utilised for procurement of wide variety of items like industrial raw materials and spares, equipment and machinery, chemical fertilizer, cement and raw cotton.

The major portion of the commodity loan will be allocated to different agencies for procurement of the items under the current import policy and the balance for meeting the foreign exchange requirement of the development projects under the annual development programme.

Of the Taka 79.17 crore project loan, Taka 33.33 crore will be allocated for Kaptai-hydro electric power plant extension project (4th and 5th units), Taka 29.16 crore for Chittagong urea fertilizer project and the remaining Taka 16.66 crore has been earmarked for Bakhrabad Gas System Ltd. for meeting the cost over-run of the gas field development project.

Aid to Power Plant

Another AFP report from Tokyo says: The Japanese Government has decided to extend 27500 million yen (1.4 million dollars) in loans to Bangladesh and 4100 million yen Zimbabwe officials said today.

Bangladesh will use the loan for power plant and other projects while Zimbabwe will use the credit to finance a road expansion project the officials said.

CSO: 4600/1040

MINISTER ANNOUNCES FOUR-TIER NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Education and Religious Affairs Minister Dr A. Majeed Khan, said in Dacca on Thursday that the New National Educational Policy for 1982-87 was designed to achieve high rate of literacy and ensure employment, reports BSS.

Announcing the new policy at a Press conference the Minister explained the salient features of the New Education Policy and said that the Government had given emphasis on achieving high rate of literacy since it constituted the basic foundation for all development activities. Secondly, the Government was keen to introduce a system of education which could be "immediately cashed in employment" he said adding the present system had failed to sustain the aspirations of our youth.

Dr Khan stated that under the new system there would be four tiers of education namely basic, preparatory, secondary and higher. The first three stages of education would comprise 12 years, the basic being from class one to five, the preparatory from six to eight and secondary from nine to eleven.

The introduction of Arabic as a compulsory subject would start from class one. This had been done "keeping the religious and cultural aspects of life of the people and our international needs in view", he added.

The Education Minister noted that the educational policy had been framed on the basis of review and examinations of almost all the education commission reports prepared since 1947 and more particularly since the liberation. "It has also its antecedent history, success and failures of the past and views of the cross-section of the people", he said.

He said the basic consideration for formulating the new education policy was guided by the fact that the highest percentage of unemployment in the higher educated section had been posing a serious problem to education. In this connection he said that approximately 40 per cent of the youth having education over the stage of 12 years was not unemployed. The nation can not afford to go through an exercise of education without the scope of employment, he said.

Dr Khan said that the second consideration for the new Education Policy was the slow rate of literacy in the country. The average literacy rate had remained more or less static during the last 20 years.

He told the Press conference that the rate of literacy in our country was 18 per cent in 1961 and according to census report of 1981 the rate of literacy now stood at about 22 per cent. Giving statistics, he stated that 30 million people out of total 46 million in our country were illiterate in 1961 and in 1981 only 20 million people out of 90 million are literate. The implications and weight of illiteracy would bring down all efforts for development, he said.

The third consideration was that the content of our education has so far remained aimless and directionless. The very objectives and scope of knowledge at the primary and secondary stages had remained very confusing. Although 4 or 5 years of basic education formed the mainstay for the majority of our people. With that view of realism one has to think about the content of our education, he stressed.

Dr. Khan pointed out that for every two thousand people one primary school would be set up. The preparatory level of three years from class six to eight he said was aimed at developing in the learners civic and other responsibilities.

The Minister said that the drop out at the end of preparatory would be catered through a large number of vocational and trade schools to be established new in addition to the existing 47 vocational schools.

He said one hundred secondary schools were brought under community school projects with provision for training in 20 modular courses covering five trades, two for women and three for men. Three hundred more such schools would be taken under the project by 1985 he pointed out.

Dr. Khan said that fifty technical and at least 20 nurses higher secondary courses would be introduced in the country by 1983.

Dr. Khan told a questioner that Tk. 600 crore would be spent for technical education under the new policy. He said the Government would supply free dress to the children of class II from January next year. This he added would be done to encourage the education at the primary level.

The Minister said the new policy had kept the door open for higher education to those who wanted to have it after acquiring practical experience in their respective lines.

Replying to a question he said that the fundamental difference between the previous education policy and the new one was that in the past direct steps were not taken for implementation of policies even if those were ideal.

CSO: 4600/1046

SAUDI \$100 MILLION GRANT REPORTED UNUTILIZED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 22 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Hassan Abul Quasem]

[Text] Over 100 million dollar Saudi grant lies unutilised for over a year due to local currency shortage.

The Saudi grant was disbursed in September last to 10 government agencies but nearly all of it remains unutilised although government has been making frantic efforts to organise finances for meeting its massive developmental budget shortage.

An economic expert told New Nation the capacity of the economy to absorb foreign aid has considerably declined following the inability of internal resource generation in recent years. The confidence of the donors has been eroded as the recipient country could not even utilize the disbursed amount of foreign currency component along with the local currency.

Due to this local currency shortage different government agencies failed to utilise their shares of foreign aid against the Saudi grant of 100 million dollar which was disbursed in September last year.

A special request was made by the then President of the country to the Saudi government

during the last foreign exchange crisis in October just before the Presidential election. The amount was, however, raised to 150 million dollar after the visit of the then President, to Saudi kingdom.

Since then the concerned authority has allocated the disbursed fund among ten government agencies on priority basis. These agencies, even after the elapse of nearly a year, could not marshal the strength to utilise this. Only 14 million dollar of that grant has been utilised by them so far.

The agencies which received allocation are—Bangladesh Shilpa Bank (BSB), Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha (BSRS), Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC), Bangladesh Food and Sugar Industries Corporation, Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation, Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation and Chief Controller of Imports and Exports.

Out of the total allocated fund most of the agencies failed

to utilise their past shares and sought extension of time for opening letters of credit.

The BSB and BSRS which were given a total 17 million dollar utilised only half their funds as they are not in a position to provide local currency component of the project cost. Whereas Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation had surrendered their total allocated foreign exchange to the allocating authority because of absence of avenues to utilise the aid. Rather, according to the BJMC, they requested to keep their funds in the next financial year.

BTMC, which was given an allocation of 3 million dollar that remained unutilised, subsequently requested the authority to extend the date of opening the letters of credit.

Meanwhile, another 50 million dollar of Saudi grant has been disbursed in August last. External Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance and Planning has become worried about the slow pace of the utilisation of the Saudi grant. The Saudi government expressed doubt regarding the gradual erosion of the capacity of utilising foreign aid by Bangladesh.

For the textile mills, the period of repayment of loans will be six to nine years with two years' moratorium.

Replying to a question the Commerce and Industries Minister said that the new companies will not be allowed to terminate the service of the staff within one year of the transfer. He hoped that there will not be any large scale dismissal.

The government will form an interim board of directors for each company to facilitate the return of shares. After the transfer of shares, the government has taken a decision to coordinate sale of jute goods of all the jute mills. In foreign market, a pricing committee he said will be formed to supervise, ensure and monitor the foreign price. Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation will act as the agents. No owner will be allowed to sell the jute goods below the price fixed by the pricing committee.

CSO: 4600/1044

TEXT OF 1982 ORDINANCE ON EMIGRATION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 9-11 Sep 82

[9 Sep 82 p 3]

[Text] The following is the text of Emigration Ordinance, 1982 issued by the Ministry of Law and Land Reforms (Law and Parliamentary Affairs Division dated September 6.

The Emigration Ordinance, 1982 Ordinance No. XXIX of 1982.

An Ordinance

To repeal and, with certain amendments, reenact the Emigration Act, 1922.

Whereas it is expedient to repeal and, with certain amendments, re-enact the Emigration Act, 1922 (VII of 1922), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the Proclamation of the 24th March, 1982, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the Chief Martial Law Administrator is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:

1. Short title, application and commencement:--(1) This Ordinance may be called the Emigration Ordinance, 1982.

(2) it applies to all citizens of Bangladesh wherever they may be.

(3) it shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Ordinance.

2. Definition. (1) In this Ordinance, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context--

(a) "citizen" means a citizen of the People's Republic of Bangladesh;

(b) "demand" means any requirement or offer for employment of workers by a foreign or Bangladeshi employer, having any project or contract or

establishment abroad, which is supported by visa instructions or work permit from the competent Government authority of the country of employment;

(c) "depart" and "departure" means the departure out of Bangladesh of any person for employment by any foreign or Bangladeshi employer or for self-employment by any means;

(d) "dependent" means any woman or child who is related to an emigrant and any aged or incapacitated relative of an emigrant;

(e) "emigrant" means any person who emigrates or is assisted to emigrate or has emigrated under this ordinance and includes any dependent of an emigrant;

(f) "emigrate" and "emigration" means the departure by sea, air or land out of Bangladesh of any person for the purpose or with the intention of working for wages or engaging in any trade, profession or calling in any country beyond the limits of Bangladesh;

(g) "licence" means a document issued by the Government authorising a person or an entity to operation as recruiting agent for employment abroad;

(h) "Newspaper" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Printing Presses and Publications (Declaration and Registration) Act, 1973 (XXIII of 1973);

(i) "overseas employment" means employment of a citizen outside Bangladesh;

(j) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Ordinance;

(k) "recruiting agent" means a person licensed under section 10;

(l) "recruit" means issuing a letter of appointment signing contracts for employment abroad by a foreign or Bangladeshi employer, making preliminary arrangements for selecting persons for employment abroad through advertisement, publicity, letter, preparation of panel verbally or in writing, and any other steps towards furtherance of the objectives of the employment of a citizen abroad;

(m) "Registrar" means a Registrar of Emigrants appointed under this Ordinance; and

(n) "rules" means rules made under this ordinance.

(2) In case of any doubt or dispute arising otherwise than in the course of any proceedings as to whether a person is an emigrant within the meaning of this ordinance, the question shall be determined by the Government and such determination shall be final.

[10 Sep 82 p 3]

[Text] The following is the remaining portion of the text of Emigration Ordinance, 1982 issued by the Ministry of Law and Land Reforms on September 6:

3. Appointment of Registrar of Emigrants. (1) the Government may appoint a person to be a Registrar of Emigrants and define the area to which the authority of a Registrar so appointed shall extend.

(2) Every Registrar shall be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860).

4. Duties and functions of the Registrar.--Every Registrar shall, in addition to the duties assigned to him by or under this Ordinance, perform such functions as may be assigned to him by the Government.

5. Agents in foreign countries.--The Government may, for the purpose of safeguarding the interest of emigrants and promoting overseas employment, appoint persons to be agents in any place outside Bangladesh and may define their powers and duties.

6. Delegation of certain authority.--The Government may authorise any authority subordinate to it to--

- (a) promote emigration of citizens,
- (b) contract and regulate such emigration, and
- (c) look after the interest and welfare of emigrants at home and abroad.

7. Regulation for emigration. (1) Emigration for overseas employment shall not be lawful from any port or place except from such ports or places as the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, declare to be ports or places from which such emigration is lawful.

(2) No person shall, unless he possesses a valid demand, recruit or attempt to recruit any citizen for overseas employment except in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and the rules made thereunder.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, emigration of a citizen shall be lawful, if he is in possession of valid travel documents with registration endorsement under sub-section (4) of section 11 and--

(a) he is in possession of a letter of appointment or a work permit from a foreign employer, or an employment or emigration visa from a foreign Government, or

(b) he has been selected for emigration by a foreign employer through an organisation or authority or by a recruiting agent, recognised by the Government in this behalf or under an agreement or treaty between the Government and a foreign Government.

8. Power to prohibit emigration of workers.--(1) if the Government, having regard to the occupation, profession, vocation or qualification of any person or class of persons is satisfied that emigration of such person or class of persons is not in the public interest, it may, by order, prohibit the emigration of such person or class of persons and thereupon the departure of such person or class of persons otherwise than in accordance with such order shall not be lawful.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (1), where the Government has reason to believe that sufficient grounds exist for prohibiting emigration of any person or any class of persons to any country, it may, by notification of the official gazette, declare that emigration of such person or class of persons to that country shall cease to be lawful from a date specified in the notification; and from that date such emigration to that country shall accordingly cease to be lawful.

9. Prohibition of advertisement, etc--(1) No person or organisation shall, except with the prior permission of the Government or any authority designated, recruit or attempt to recruit a citizen for overseas employment or issue an advertisement or publish any material or hold any interview or examination for such recruitment for the purpose of emigration.

(2) No newspaper shall publish any advertisement for employment abroad unless it is satisfied that the same is intended to be issued with the Government approval or clearance.

10. Grant of Licence.--(1) Whoever desires to engage, or to recruit or to assist, any person to emigrate shall apply to the Government, for licence at such time and in such manner, and shall, with his application, furnish such information and documents and pay such security and fee as may be prescribed.

(2) On receiving an application under sub-section (1), the Government may, after such enquiry regarding the character, antecedents and solvency of the applicant as it may consider necessary, grant the licence applied for on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be prescribed, or reject the application for licence.

(3) The decision of the Government under sub-section (2) shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

(4) A licence under this section may be issued in favour of a citizen or in favour of a corporation, company, partnership firm or any other entity, if--

(a) in the case of corporation or company, at least sixty per cent of the stock of the corporation or the company, and

(b) in the case of a partnership firm or any other entity, at least sixty per cent of the capital or proprietary right of the firm or the entity, is owned or controlled by Bangladeshi citizens.

11. Appearance of emigrants before the Registrar, etc.--(1) Before any person departs from Bangladesh, the person by whom he has been engaged or assisted shall appear in person or by his duly authorised agent before the Registrar and furnish such information regarding terms of his engagement or contract, and such other matters concerning his selection as may be prescribed.

(2) If the person departing from Bangladesh is directly appointed or recruited by a foreign Government or organisation or agency or by other foreign employers, such person shall furnish required information to the Registrar.

(3) If the Registrar is satisfied that the terms of agreement under which a person has been engaged or assisted are in conformity with the terms on the basis of which the licence to recruit was granted, he shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars concerning the person engaged or assisted and his dependents, if any, and the person engaging or assisting him in such form as may be prescribed.

(4) Registration of persons departing Bangladesh shall be endorsed on their passports by the Registrar.

12. Registration of emigrants residing abroad:--An emigrant residing abroad and who has not been registered under this Ordinance shall get himself registered with such Labour Attache or in his absence with any such other officer as may be specified by the Government in this behalf and such registration shall be reported to the Registrar.

13. Non-transferability of licence or authority--(2) No licence shall be used directly or indirectly by any person other than the person in whose favour it was issued or at any place other than the place mentioned in the licence nor shall the licence be transferred, conveyed or assigned to any person or entity.

(2) No transfer of the business address or designation of any agent or representative mentioned in the licence shall be made without prior approval of the government.

[11 Sep 82 pp 3, 7]

[Text] The following is the remaining part of the text of Emigration Ordinance, 1982 issued by the Ministry of Law and Land Reforms, on September 6:

14. Cancellation, suspension, forfeiture of security, etc.--(1) If, at any time during the pendency of a licence, the Government is satisfied, after making such enquiry as it may deem necessary, that the licensee has been guilty of misconduct or that his conduct or performance as a licensee has been unsatisfactory or that he has violated any of the provisions of this Ordinance or the rules made thereunder or the prescribed Code of Conduct, it may, after giving the licensee an opportunity of being heard,

by order in writing, cancel the licence or suspend it for a period to be specified in the order and may also forfeit the security furnished by him under section 10 in full or in part.

(2) The security money forfeited under sub-section (1) may be--

(a) paid to an affected person, or

(b) utilised for repatriating of any stranded person in foreign country or for such other purpose as the Government may deem appropriate in the public interest.

(3) On expiry of the period for which the licence is granted or on the intimation by the licensee that he does not intend to continue to act as a recruiting agent and on being satisfied that no ground for forfeiting the security in whole or in part exists, the Government may order the refund of the security or part thereof to the person by whom it was furnished or to his authorised representative.

15. Power to withdraw licence.--Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Ordinance, if, at any time, the Government is satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest to discontinue the practice of granting licence to recruiting agents, it may, by notification in the official Gazette, withdraw all licences granted under section 10.

16. Decision under sections 14 and 15 to be final.--The decisions of the Government under sections 14 and 15 shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

17. Inspection, etc. to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance.--The Government may, for the enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance and the rules made thereunder, appoint such officers as it may deem fit and an officer so appointed may

(a) enter into any office or premise maintained or used by any person or entity in connection with the recruitment of emigrants for overseas employment;

(b) require and enforce the production of any books of accounts and records maintained by such person or entity and inspect such books of accounts and records; and

(c) examine such person or entity and obtain from him or it statement in writing in this behalf.

18. Power to search and detain vessels.--All the powers for the time being conferred by law on officers of customs with regard to the searching and detention of vessels may be exercised for the prevention of offences under this Ordinance by any such officer or by any officer authorised by the Government in this behalf.

19. Power to make rules.--(1) The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Ordinance.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:

(a) powers and duties of officers appointed by the Government under the Ordinance;

(b) the licensing, supervision and control of persons engaged in recruiting persons for overseas employment or causing or assisting persons to emigrate and in the conveyance and accommodation of emigrants, and the prohibition of unlicensed persons from being so engaged;

(c) the establishment, supervision and regulation of any place of accommodation provided for emigrants and for their medical care while resident there;

(d) the forms to be maintained and the returns to be submitted by persons licensed in accordance with the rules made under clause (b);

(e) the manner of inspection of premises, books of accounts and records of any person or entity connected with recruitment of emigrants for overseas employment;

(f) the information to be furnished by recruiting agents to emigrants and the language in which such information is to be furnished;

(g) appearance of emigrants before the Registrar and furnishing information under section 12;

(h) fees to be paid by a recruiting agent to the Registrar for each emigrant departing Bangladesh;

(i) setting up training, orientation and briefing centres to guide and advise intending emigrants and their dependents proceeding abroad;

(j) recall and repatriation, in the public interest, of an emigrant;

(k) measures to be adopted for the welfare of emigrants and their dependents;

(l) disposal of complaints against recruiting agents;

(m) formation of an association of recruiting agents and framing of Code of Conduct to be observed by recruiting agents;

(n) service charge to be paid to a recruiting agent;

(o) depositing of fees and securities by a recruiting agent;

(p) procedure for sending of emigrants by persons possessing secured contract or sub-contract for the purpose;

(q) the security, well-being and protection of emigrants; and

(r) fees receivable from persons recruited and going abroad for employment.

20. Unlawful emigration.--(1) Whoever, except in conformity with the provisions of this Ordinance and the rules made thereunder, emigrates or attempts to emigrate or departs or attempts to depart shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year simple imprisonment or with fine not exceeding Taka five thousand or with both.

(2) whoever, except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance or the rules made thereunder:

(a) makes or attempts to make any agreement with any person purporting to bind that person, or any other person to emigrate or

(b) causes or assists or attempts to cause or assist any person to emigrate or depart or to attempt to emigrate or depart or to leave any place for the purpose of emigrating or departing, or

(c) causes any person engaged, assisted or recruited by him after grant of the licence under section 10 to depart without appearing before the Registrar as required under section 11 or

(d) furnishes or publishes information or notice or document in relation to recruitment for employment abroad, or

(e) substitutes or alters any employment contract approved and verified by the Registrar or

(f) withholds or denies travel documents from a prospective emigrant for monetary or financial consideration other than those authorised under this Ordinance, shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both.

(3) when in the course of any proceeding in connection with emigration in which a recruiting agent or a person or an organisation is concerned, a branch of the provisions of this Ordinance or the rules made thereunder is committed such agent or, as the case may be person or organisation shall be liable to the punishment provided by sub-section (2), unless he proves that he was not responsible for and could not have prevented the commission of the breach.

(4) A person who recruits a citizen or holds an interview or examination or issues advertisement for such recruitment in contravention of the provisions of section 9 shall be liable to the punishment provided by sub-section (2).

21. Fraudulently inducing to emigrate: whoever, by means of intoxication, coercion or fraud, causes or induces or attempts to cause or induce any person to emigrate, or enter into an agreement to emigrate, or leave any place with a view to emigrating, shall be punishable with imprisonment for term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

22. False representation of Government authority: Whoever falsely represents that any emigrant is required by the Government or is to be engaged on behalf of the Government, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both.

23. Receiving money, etc. for providing foreign employment: Whoever, for providing or securing or on the pretext of providing or securing, to or for any person, employment in any country beyond the limits of Bangladesh:

(a) being a recruiting agent, charges any fee in addition to the prescribed amount;

(b) not being a recruiting agent, demands or receives or attempts to receive, for himself or for any other person any money or other valuable thing shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

24. Penalty for contravention of agreement: whoever contravenes the terms of the agreement with his foreign employer by abandoning his employment or otherwise shall after the repatriation to Bangladesh be punishable with fine which may extend to five thousand Taka.

25. Recovery of expenditure for repatriation etc: (2) The amount of expenditure, if any incurred by the Government for repatriation to Bangladesh of a person who is convicted of an offence punishable under sub-section (1) of section 20 or section 24, shall be recoverable from such person in accordance with the provisions of the Public Demands Recovery Act, 1913 (Ben. Act III of 1913).

(2) The Government may recover the amount involved in an offence under section 21 in accordance with the provisions of the Public Demands Recovery Act, 1923 (Ben. Act III of 1913) and the amount so recovered shall be paid to the person who had paid it.

26. Special courts--(1) The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, establish as many special courts as it considers necessary for trial of offences under this Ordinance and, where it establishes more than one special court, shall specify in the notification the headquarters of each special court and the territorial limits within which it shall exercise jurisdiction under this Ordinance.

(2) A special court shall consist of a person who is the Chairman of a labour Court established under the Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969 (XXIII of 1969).

(3) A special court shall take cognizance of, and have jurisdiction to try, an offence punishable under this Ordinance only upon a complaint in writing made by such person as the Government may, by a general or special order, authorise in this behalf.

(4) A special court trying an offence under this Ordinance shall try such offence summarily and in trying such offences, such special court shall follow the procedure laid down in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898), for summary trial.

27. Indemnity.--No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Government, Registrar or any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done under this Ordinance.

28. Ordinance not to apply to certain persons.--This Ordinance shall apply to the departure of a person--

(a) who is not a citizen of Bangladesh, or

(b) who is in the service of the Republic or of a local authority and is proceeding on duty, or on training, or leave, or for employment with any international organisation, with the permission of the Government, or

(c) who is engaged as a member of the crew on board a foreigngoing vessel, or

(d) who is a dependent of a citizen already resident or employed in a foreign country and is on a temporary visit to Bangladesh.

29. Repeal and sayings.--(1) The Emigration Act, 1922 (VII of 1922), shall stand repealed in relation to any provision in respect of which this Ordinance comes into force.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal.--

(a) anything done or any action taken or any rule made or any notification issued or any proceeding commenced under the provisions of the said Act, shall, in so far as it is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, be deemed to have been done, taken, made, issued or commenced, as the case may be, under the corresponding provision of this Ordinance; and

(b) all cases pending before any court immediately before the commencement of this Ordinance shall be tried and disposed of by such court, and all matters in connection with such cases shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions of the said Act, as if the said Act had not been repealed by this Ordinance.

Hussain Muhammad Ershad, ndc, psc
Lieutenant-General,
Chief Martial Law Administrator

CSO: 4600/1027

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES ON SYLHET WELL REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 19 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

BEANIBAZAR (Sylhet), Sept. 18.—Gas and petroleum products worth over Taka 70 crore can be harnessed annually at the initial stage from Beanibazar well at Sylhet, according to a preliminary estimate. The final production testing of the well, now being carried out, is expected to be completed within a couple of days.

The Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator and Minister for Energy, Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud who visited the site of oil exploration at Beanibazar on Saturday told newsmen that the preliminary seismic study of the drilling site has revealed a reserve of nearly 1.1 trillion cubic feet of gas. The ratio of condensate (oil in crude form) is 20 barrels for each million cubic feet of gas. The DCMLA said that though condensate is extracted in other gas fields also the ratio is quite low in those places and as such not commercially viable for extraction. But the ratio of condensate present in Beanibazar well is comparatively quite high and thus feasible for commercial extraction, the DCMLA added.

The ratio of exploitation of condensate would be 800 barrels subject to the extraction of 40 million cubic feet of gas a day. Experts at the drilling site told DCMLA that condensate accounts for 80 per cent

of petroleum, 15 per cent kerosene and five per cent by product. The net recovery of petroleum as such would be 640 barrels or roughly 25 thousand gallons per day. While the recovery of kerosene from the well will be around 120 barrels a day. The estimated price of the gas, petroleum and kerosene at this rate of exploitation would be around Taka 20 lakh each day.

Of the total estimated reserve at the Beanibazar well the extractable quantity will be around 0.8 trillion cubic feet and under the rated exploitation the reserve would be able to feed the country for 40 years or more.

Talking to newsmen the DCMLA said that the government is determined to exploit untapped natural resources that exist within the high pressure zone where Beanibazar well is also located. The government will seek financial assistance from World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) for further exploration of oil and gas at Sylhet. The potential of oil and gas reserve at Beanibazar is considered very high but the exploration has been suspended due to lack of fund. But soon it would be taken at national level the DCMLA added.

The cost for further exploration and commercial extraction of oil and gas would involve over 60 million U.S. dollars, the DCMLA pointed out. At the moment further exploration is not possible in the absence of firm commitment of fund by the donor agencies. More drilling work at potential sites in Sylhet would be carried out as soon as adequate fund is made available.

Addressing the personnel representing various agencies connected with the exploration at Beanibazar well the DCMLA thanked them for their efforts and expressed determination to translate into reality what they have accomplished.

It may be recalled that the work on Beanibazar well under Multi-Well Development Programme (MDP) financed by West German grant began in November 1980 and was completed in May last year. The Beanibazar well has a depth of more than thirteen thousand feet and the oil and gas were found between the upper strata at 10,750 feet and lower strata at 11,254 feet. The pressure at the site was found to be more than four thousand and a temperature of 170 degrees. The total estimated cost of the Beanibazar well is around 13 million U.S. dollars.

STEADY RISE IN EXPORTS TO GULF STATES NOTED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 19 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Matiur Rahman]

[Text] Bangladesh made a steady mark, though lately, in her trade with the six Gulf states bringing the total export earning to the tune of Taka 25 crore in last one decade.

But the import bills mainly for crude and partly for refined oil from the Gulf states cost Bangladesh over Taka 2480 crore during the decade beginning in 1973.

The bilateral trade separately with the six Gulf states--Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain--remained highly imbalanced in all these years because of the crude import. The situation was substantially eased by either loans or grants provided to Bangladesh.

The Gulf states mainly Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait provided the loans and grants amounting to over Taka 341 crore during the decade for the import of crude and refined oil.

There was remarkable improvement in export in 1981-82 when the earning was over Taka 10 crore from the Gulf states over the previous year 1980-81 when the export earning was about Taka four crore only.

The bilateral trade got a boost in the later part of the decade when the export earning started rising from a morbid stage that was prevailing in the early years of Bangladesh's independence.

The total earning from the Gulf states in 1973-74 was about Taka 20 lakh only with no export to Oman and Bahrain. In 1973-74, Saudi Arabia imported Bangladesh commodities worth Taka 5,20,000; Kuwait Taka 8 lakh; UAE Taka 6 lakh 50,000 and Qatar Taka one lakh only.

Though Bangladesh has bright prospect of marketing a number of her commodities in the Gulf states, she exports at present mainly perishable commodities like fish (fresh and salted), shrimps and prawns, vegetables besides some traditional items like jute and jute goods.

Saudi Arabia alone imported shrimps and prawns worth about Taka two crore in 1981-82. Similarly, UAE, Qatar and Oman imported shrimps and prawns, fish, both fresh and salted, as major items from Bangladesh during the year.

While Kuwait imported jute manufactures like hessians as main item besides handicrafts, electrical goods and rubber goods worth Taka 1 crore 78 lakh. Most of the Gulf states import 'atar' and 'agar bati' worth of several lakhs of taka from Bangladesh every year.

Bilateral trade with the Gulf states started increasing both ways from the later part of the seventies and became diversified.

According to official sources, there are tremendous demands of Bangladesh commodities mostly non-traditional items like printed materials and packages, rubber goods, electrical goods, wires and cables, handicrafts, ready-made garments, textiles besides vegetables, fish, shrimps and prawns in the Gulf markets. There is good demand of jute goods like carpets and others, export volume of which can easily be increased.

Despite the prospect of good markets, Bangladesh failed to cope with the demand and the traders, who are "very much keen" to export an increased volume of commodities face a number of problems particularly at home.

The exporters particularly of perishable commodities face serious problems in dispatching their goods to the Gulf states by air due to highly irregular flight of the national airline--Biman. If it can maintain regular schedule, the export volume will go up as Biman flies to a number of spots in the Gulf states like Dubai, Doha, Bahrain, Jeddah etc, an exporter told this correspondent.

"Usually we collect quality products whatever they are after a good search at home to get a good price. But what is the use if we can't send them in time to our buyers because of the delay in flight and the goods get perished in the midway," he lamented.

Similarly, the Shipping Corporation often could not provide required space, some time not at all, for the exportable commodities and the goods remained dumped for days together causing damage to the goods.

According to the exporters, neither the Foreign Trade Division nor the Export Promotion Bureau comes to their help with information and action though they put up spectacular advertisements with a call to boost the export.

Besides Bangladesh, there are other neighbouring countries--Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka who are equally competitors of the markets in the Gulf states. "If we are not conscious and particular, they will come and capture the market," one of the exporters said.

CSO: 4600/1036

LITTLE SUCCESS IN NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY SEEN

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 19 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Musleh A. Tarek]

[Text] The liberal facilities provided by the government under the new industrial policy for the potential private investors particularly in the form of specific time limit for processing, sanctioning, and disbursement of loans by the loan giving agencies have not geared up much till now.

Bangladesh Shilpa Bank (BSB) and Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Shangstha (BSRS), the two main institutional sources for industrial finance, are suffering from resource constraints making it difficult on their part to undertake new operations on a meaningful scale.

Meanwhile, the number of fresh applications from investors with the loan giving agencies has recorded a sharp decrease. This reflects both the prevailing state of slump in industrial investments as well as the continuing constraints in fresh credit sanctioning capacity of loan giving agencies because of paucity of funds.

It is learnt that the donor countries and agencies have taken a hard attitude to reduce the amount of their loan proportionately. The IDA, the main source of project aid for the two financing institutions has recently slowed down its loan disbursement.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is reluctant to disburse its committed fund because of irregularities in the utilization of foreign exchange allocations and anomalies in project appraisal and fund disbursement procedure of financial bodies.

It is learnt that the ADB, which is advancing considerable amount of foreign currency loan for industrial development has asked the BSB and the BSRS to submit list of the projects approved by them against ADB loan.

It has also asked the loan giving institutions of Bangladesh to give specifications of machinery, names of suppliers with price and justification for selection of the machinery along with necessary procurement certificate prior to the actual withdrawal of funds from the Asian Development Bank.

It may be mentioned here that as against 434 applications in 1980-81 only 34 applications were received by BSRS from industrial investors in 1981-82. The BSRS only sanctioned Tk. 10 97 crore as fresh loans in 1981-82 as against Tk. 164.74 crore in 1980-81. [as published] Although loan disbursement by BSRS totalled Tk. 32.87 crore during 1981-82 as against Tk. 58.21 in 1980-81.

But it is learnt that both BSRS and BSB sanctioned loan for a number of industrial projects on a priority basis in the last two months of the current fiscal year and a number of industrial projects just before the beginning of the current fiscal year. But still now none of these have received requisite money because of the financial bodies' exhausted fund position.

According to an official estimate, the two financial institutions alone require Tk. 264 crore to finance their approved projects. The BSRS requires Tk. 154 crore while the requirement of the BSB has been calculated at Tk. 110 crore.

It is learnt that one of the main causes of resource constraints of BSRS and BSB is unsatisfactory recovery of loans. According to a reliable source, a huge amount of loans allocated to different sectors has not yet been recovered.

CSO: 4600/1037

DAMAGES CAUSED BY FLOODS, DROUGHT REVIEWED

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 19 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Jaglul Alam]

[Text] A flash flood which claimed 13 human lives, covered over 30 thousand acres of land, made lakhs of people homeless and affected the seasonal crops including broadcast and transplanted aman, aus, sweet potato, jute, winter crops etc. in areas in Rajshahi, Kushtia, Jessore and Pabna is now receding.

On the other hand an unexpected drought which hit a huge area in Khulna, Dinajpur, Rangpur and parts of Jessore and Rajshahi affected aman seedlings and aus plants together with summer pulses, is also showing signs of improvement with the coming of casual and light rainfall throughout the country last week.

Though drought and flood are on their way out, those have already wrought irreparable losses upon both crops and people.

According to an official flood damage report prepared by the Directorate of Agriculture during the latter part of the last week, B. aman in 2020 acres, T. aman in 3000 acres, aus in 600 acres, pulses in 3000 acres and vegetables and jute in over 1000 acres were completely damaged while crops on 3000 acres were damaged partially in five thanas of Rajshahi, two thanas of Kushtia, and three thanas of Pabna alone.

The complete reports on Chapai Nawabganj of Rajshahi, the worst hit area, and seven more thanas of the same district, eight thanas of Jessore and nine thanas of Pabna are yet to reach the authorities.

According to a report published in newspapers, there was an official estimation of the flood control room at Rajshahi stating that crops over 16 thousand acres of land were damaged and seven thousand homes were inundated affecting over 37 thousand people in Chapai Nawabganj alone.

The government's conservative estimate of total damage in Chapai Nawabganj was over two crore takas in terms of money. Unofficial sources claim that eight people in that area were killed and about 75 thousand people were

rendered homeless in the same area and crops and properties worth over seven crore takas were damaged.

According to an expert of the Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council at Dacca, even if the flood and drought affect foodgrains on 30 thousand acres of land, as per the official estimate, these will result in loss of 10 lakh maunds of foodgrain at the rate of 10 maunds of foodgrains per bigha on average.

He also opined that people of the affected areas would again find it difficult to go on supplementary yield because many of them have lost their cattleheads, ploughing instruments, etc.

Obaidullah Khan, Minister for Agriculture, when interviewed by HOLIDAY last week, agreed that drought and floods claimed a number of lives and damaged crops over considerable areas particularly in some northern Bangladesh districts.

He said that the full damage report on flood and drought was yet to be completed and added that the situation was improving gradually.

He remarked that in many cases B. aman which was suffering from inadequate water following drought had benefitted due to the flood water. Further information in this respect will be known as soon as the flood recedes completely, he said.

He added that meanwhile local officers had been asked to prepare a draft rehabilitation program for relief of the affected farmers.

Mr. Khan said that the flood and drought caused damage but it will not be difficult to overcome the effects. In the meantime, 350 tubewells have been installed at Dinajpur, pumps are being distributed free, and about 2500 wells have been excavated by the agricultural field workers to fight the drought, he said.

The Agriculture Minister stated that the impact due to damaged aman crops in some areas could be countered by aus and summer pulses and in the remaining places wheat could be cultivated.

To check the adverse situation the government has already sanctioned a seed grant of 15 lakh takas for the affected farmers and the seeds for winter crops in sufficient quantum have also been distributed to them, he explained.

Food Front

A. G. Mahmood, the Minister for Food, Relief and Rehabilitation, when interviewed by HOLIDAY said that the food problem, a shortage to the tune of over 23 lakh tons, was inherited from the previous regime but the present government was lucky enough in tackling it.

He said that earlier a target was set to produce 155.50 lakh tons of foodgrains during the present fiscal year and after the recent devastation by flood and drought, a revised target of foodgrain production was set at 151 lakh tons.

He said that taking subtraction at the rate of 10 percent on seed, feed and handling, about 135.90 lakh tons of foodgrains would be available from internal sources, while the country requires about 148.60 lakh tons of foodgrains for the present year.

It may be pointed out that production and procurement of aus, so far reported, was not satisfactory. In place of the targetted 30 lakh tons of aus 18 lakh tons were produced. As a result, the procurement target set for aus was also unsatisfactory. In place of 30 thousand tons' procurement target for aus 3000 tons have so far been procured by the government.

The Food Minister said that the target for aus procurement could not be achieved because the farmers did not sell their aus paddy apprehending an imaginary foodgrain crisis and also because they received a higher price for their crops in the open market.

Mr Mahmood explained that the farmers are not under compulsion to sell their crops to the government. "We try to give them a price support and they are at liberty to sell their products at any place they like," he explained.

He said that to face the foodgrain shortage of over 12.70 lakh tons, arrangements have already been made to procure about 14.90 lakh tons from external sources.

Out of this, one lakh tons have already been procured on cash purchase and tender has been floated for another two lakh tons, he said.

He added that about 11.30 lakh tons of foodgrains would reach the country by December this year.

"The prospect of the next aman crop, the major one, will come to our knowledge by the latter part of November and we have sufficient food in hand to run to the end of January. In this situation even if the prospect of aman becomes bleak because of drought, flood or similar natural calamities, we shall have enough time to fight the gap collecting foodgrains from external sources," he said.

He said that over 50 percent of foodgrains presently in the government's hand have been stored at thana level warehouses to reach them to the people within the shortest possible time. The administration has been decentralized to keep easy connection with the people's problem, he said.

The Food and Relief Minister said that meanwhile 38 thousand tons of foodgrains have been distributed through test relief program, 76 thousand tons have been sanctioned for open market sale, and 77 thousand tons have so far been distributed under the modified ration scheme.

Another 18000 tons of foodgrains have been distributed to distressed mothers and children in the vulnerable group feeding program. He said that relief on the same scale has again been sanctioned for next month.

To generate income among the village population 95 lakh tons of foodgrains have been sanctioned under the Food for Works scheme in which 77 lakh tons have already been utilized.

He said, "We have decided to run the Food for Works program under the supervision of the local administrative bodies posted at the thana level under the new scheme to eliminate distribution anomalies."

CSO: 4600/1037

FERTILIZER PRODUCTION, USE SINCE 1972 REVIEWED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Bangladesh used 62.54 lakh tons of chemical fertilizers during the last 11 years since her independence and the rice production recorded a compound growth rate of 2.82 per cent during this decade.

The sale of fertilizers by BADC increased by 27 times since its inception in 1961-62. The use of fertilizers shot up to 8.29 lakh tons in the last fiscal year from only 31,000 tons in 1961-62. However, the highest sale of fertilizers was 8.75 lakh tons in 1980-81 and the production of rice that year was 136,62,075 tons.

A close study of BADC records shows that the Corporation could never achieve its target of sale of fertilizers. In 1981-82 the BADC target was 9.80 lakh tons but it could sell 8.29 lakh tons during the year achieving 85 per cent of its target.

During the current fiscal year the BADC fixed its target at 10.25 lakh tons of fertilizers but in the first two months (July and August) it had sold 76000 tons (36 per cent less than its monthly target). The sale of fertilizers this year is less than the corresponding two months in 1981-82 (95000 tons) and 1980-81 (one lakh tons).

This sudden fall in the use of fertilizers this year is due to increase in sale price, decline in the purchasing power of consumers, drought, flood and heavy rainfall. In the new Budget the price of urea and DAP was increased to Taka 148 per maund from Taka 132 per maund and the price of TSP has been fixed at Taka 110 per maund from Taka 95.

The requirement of chemical fertilizers this year is estimated at 14 lakh tons. The opening stock of fertilizers of BADC as on 7.7.82 was 4.38 lakh tons and the local production from the four fertilizer factories has been estimated at 7.85 lakh tons and the import target is about 2.75 lakh tons. The production target in Ghorasal factory this year is 2.60 lakh tons, in Zia Fertilizer Factory 2.40 lakh tons, in Fenchuganj Factory 90,000 tons and in TSP factory 95,000 tons.

But the local production fell much below the target due to closures of Zia and Ghorasal factories leading to fertilizers crisis during October and

November last year. The Zia Fertilizer Factory failed to keep its production target in 1981-82, the first year of its production. It produced only 63000 tons against its revised production target of 93000 tons of Urea. This year also the factory remained closed for sometime and in the month of July it supplied only 1600 tons to BADC against its target of 20000 tons.

A target for export of fertilizers set at one lakh tons of urea this year.

CSO: 4600/1038

PAPER REPORTS POOR OUTLOOK FOR FOOD CROPS

Dacca HOLIDAY in English 19 Sep 82 pp 1, 8

[Article by Hossain Khasru]

[Text] Substantial crop damage during the last Aus season and uncertain prospects of the coming Aman may now result in another agricultural setback for the country during the current year.

Unless efforts for recovery are effectively stepped up through elaborate and well-coordinated arrangements for delivery of agri-inputs and credits at the farmers' level in time and also in adequate quantum during the next rabi crop, actual food production will in all probability fall much short of the target, earlier fixed at 155 lakh tons.

The aus production loss this year was recorded at the highest levels in five northern districts--Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Jessore and Khustia.

The drought prevailing during the season for transplanting the seedlings has also made the prospects for aman uncertain this year. Following the drought came the flood which also caused extensive damage to the paddy making the natural conditions for aman production more unfavorable this year.

According to the agriculture officials, about 30 percent of the total aman acreage could not be brought under cultivation till the close of the first week of August.

In the wake of the recent flood, the government announced an agricultural rehabilitation program with an initial investment outlay of ten crore takas for distribution of 35,000 maunds of aman seeds and seedlings over an area of three lakh acres to recoup the losses in the seven flood-affected districts of the country.

The actual implementation of this program is yet to be assessed. Experts however feel that the rehabilitation program has been inadequate.

Major Thrust

Quite obviously, a major thrust has to be placed now on boosting farm production during the next rabi crop in order to keep the gap between food production target and actual production performance narrow as far as possible during the current year.

It may be recalled that the mid-term food production strategy covering the year, 1982-83, envisaged the extension of irrigation coverage by 24 percent over the last year's level to 72 lakh acres, distribution of 10.5 lakh tons of fertilizer, and disbursements of about Tk. 800 crore as agricultural credits to the farmers.

Monitoring and review of performance with regard to the implementation of the mid-term food production strategy will now be needed to be made on a regular basis particularly during the course of the rabi season owing to the fact that recent performance for delivery of inputs and credits, as all available information suggests, has not been up to the mark.

As Nature has played foul with production performance during the aus and aman seasons this year, the operational efficiency of human management factors as much as institutional arrangements will have to be improved to a large extent to reach agri-inputs and credits to the farmers well in time in adequate quantum particularly during the next rabi season as the higher input prices under the impact of new policy decisions of the government would otherwise tend to act as a disincentive to sustain an accelerated productive drive at the growers' level.

More often than not, inefficiency and errors in human management factors had caused the nation to drag the burden of an average annual import bill of one thousand crore takas on food account alone as successive programs with all pompous promises for boosting food production and attaining autarky faltered for one reason or other till recent times.

/It is worth mentioning here that the question of raising food production has a critical bearing upon the economy's overall growth process as approximately forty percent of the country's GDP is derived from crops of which three-fourths comes from rice alone.

/Any shortfall in reaching the target this year coming after last year's setback in the agricultural sector is bound to have shocking effects beyond the acceptable limit of absorptive capacity for a poor agrarian economy like that of Bangladesh's./ [in boldface]

CSO: 4600/1037

BRIEFS

PRC FRIENDSHIP TEAM--An eight-member friendship delegation led by Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan left Dacca on Friday evening for Bangkok en route to China on a two-week visit, reports BSS. The delegation during its stay will visit various places of historical importance in China. The other members of the delegation are: Mr. Motahar Hossain Siddiqui, Editor, THE NEW NATION; Mr. Shamsul Huda Advocate; Mr. Abdul Matin; Dr. Fazlul Karim; Mr. Fakir Alamgir; Kazi Shahiduddin Ahmed and Mr. Tofail Ahmed. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 Sep 82 p 1]

RICE COST INCREASE--Price of medium quality rice recorded an increase of over 36 per cent while those of some essentials declined marginally, over the year, according to an official handout yesterday. Kerosene price shot up by 43 per cent and writing paper by 7 per cent while sugar price declined by 15 per cent. It said the government has already taken steps to increase supply of rice. Kerosene price increased by Tk 10 per gallon due to increase in import value and other costs. Giving comparative price of 19 essential items of September 7 of last year and this year the handout said the government has noticed that an impression is being sought to be created that prices of essential items have been going up due to imposition or enhancement of duties and taxes in the recent budget. But the comparative prices will show that prices of most essential items remained stable, within reasonable level of market fluctuation. Prices of a number of items, on the other hand, have come down, the handout added. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 11 Sep 82 pp 1, 8]

AGRICULTURAL LOAN PROCEDURE--The Council of Ministers yesterday decided to simplify further the agriculture loan giving procedure with a view to increasing the agricultural productions, reports BSS. The decision was taken at a meeting of the council held in Dacca with the Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt. Gen. Ershad in the chair. The council also decided to frame a two-year plan on emergency basis for controlling the country's population growth. It decided to amend the "Islamic University Act, 1980" and merge the Islamic Education and Research Institute with the Islamic University for making the Islamic education consistent with the trend and methods of modern education and to attune it to the need of the time. The council also decided to give directive to produce identity card by the officials and employees for entering the secretariat. [Text] [Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 12 Sep 82 p 1]

CONSULTANTS INVESTIGATED--Government is learnt to be taking serious note of the involvement of high ranking government officials with consultancy work provided by different national and international agencies. Government maintains that doing consultancy work tantamounts to violation of service conduct. The secretariat of the Chief Martial Law Administrator has recently asked all the ministries, divisions and attached departments and directorates to submit reports regarding government officers who have been working in consultancy agencies since 1977. The reports have to be submitted within October 15. [Text] [Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 13 Sep 82 p 1]

CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL--Bangladesh on Sunday strongly condemned the heinous and inhuman acts of Israeli massacre of Palestinians in the two camps in West Beirut and demanded immediate end to the vicious designs against the Palestine and Lebanese people reports BSS. A spokesman of the Foreign Office in a statement in Dacca said that Bangladesh also strongly urged immediate and total international measures for ending Israeli occupation of West Beirut and withdrawal of her forces forthwith from Lebanon. The spokesman said Bangladesh has learnt with grave shock the news of brutal massacre of hundreds of innocent and unarmed Palestinian men, women and children in the Bori Al-Brajeh and Shatila camps in West Beirut. This appalling and barbaric act has aroused a great sense of indignation and revulsion in Bangladesh and in all peace loving countries. Bangladesh the spokesman said condemned such heinous and inhuman acts in strongest possible terms and demands an immediate end to the vicious designs against the Palestinians and Lebanese people. Bangladesh strongly urges immediate and total international measures for ending Israeli occupation of West Beirut and withdrawal of her forces forthwith from Lebanon in terms of UN and Security Council resolutions." [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Sep 82 p 1]

RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD--The Council of Ministers on Sunday decided to set up Bangladesh Rural Development Board to expedite development of the rural areas through cooperatives reports BSS. It also decided to promulgate an ordinance in this regard under the nomenclature "Bangladesh Rural Development Board Ordinance". The decisions were taken at a meeting of the Council with Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad in the chair. The Council decided to integrate the existing two-tier and traditional cooperative into production-oriented Comilla type cooperative. It decided to abolish Haor Development Board and Offshore Island Board. The projects under these two Boards will be taken over by the respective Divisional Development Boards. The decision was taken to avoid overlapping and duplication and to streamline development activities in these areas. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Sep 82 p 1]

AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM--The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has decided to appoint Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Choudhury, at present Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, as Bangladesh Ambassador to Belgium, says a PID handout. Born on September 1, 1932 Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Choudhury did his

Graduation with Honours in Economics in 1951 and Master Degree in International Relations with distinction in 1952 from the University of Dacca. He also obtained a Master Degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Boston, USA in 1955. Mr. Choudhury joined the diplomatic service of Pakistan on the basis of competitive examination in 1954. He served in various capacities in Diplomatic Missions in Peking, Bonn, Lagos, Rome and Paris. He was Minister in Pakistan Embassy in Paris in August 1971 and also Deputy Permanent Representative for Pakistan to UNESCO. Mr. Choudhury was appointed Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dacca in March 1976 and Secretary, Foreign Affairs from August 1978 to June 1979. He has been the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan since July 1979 and concurrently accredited to the Republic of Korea. Mr. Choudhury is married. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Sep 82 p 1]

IMPRISONED EDITOR RELEASED--Jessore, Sept. 20: Mr. Golam Mazed, Editor and Publisher of DAINIK RUNNER most popular vernacular daily published from Jessore town, was released from Jessore Central Jail recently. It may be mentioned here that Mr. Golam Mazed who is also President of Jessore Press Club and Jessore Sangbadpatra Parishad was sentenced by summary military court on April 26 last for a two years Jail term for publication of an item criticising the Martial Law authorities. Later, the CMLA Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad during his meeting on August 12 with the Editors of dailies and weeklies published from outside Dacca, exempted rest part of conviction of Mr. Golam Mazed as a gesture to the newsmen. Accordingly he was released. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 21 Sep 82 p 2]

UN DELEGATION NAMED--Composition of the Bangladesh delegation to the 37th session of the United Nations General Assembly was announced in Dacca on Friday, reports BSS. The delegation to be divided into two groups for the first and second halves of the session will be led by Permanent Representative to the U.N. Lt Gen (Retd) Khawja Wasiuddin. Delegation members who will attend the first half of the session beginning later this month are: Major General Muzammel Hussain, Mr Justice Chowdhury A. T. M. Masud, High Commissioner to Britain Mr Fakhruddin Ahmed, High Commissioner to Zimbabwe Mr S. R. Karim and Lt. Col. Shah Salahuddin. Three of them--Maj. Gen. Muzammel, Justice Masud and Lt. Col. Salahuddin--left Dacca on Friday night for New York to attend the session. Members of delegation who will represent Bangladesh in the second half of the session are: Foreign Secretary Mr Ataul Karim, Maj. Gen. Nooruddin Khan, High Commissioner to Canada Maj. Gen. (Retd) K. M. Shafiullah, Permanent Representative to United Nations Mission in Geneva Mr A. K. M. Morshed, Director General of Foreign Ministry Mr A. H. Mahmood Ali and Colonel Abu Mayeen Anin Ahmed. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Sep 82 p 1]

ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR--The Government of Algeria has appointed Mr Mohamed Larbi Demaghlatus as Ambassador of Algeria to Bangladesh, says a PID handout. From 1971 to 1978 he was Ambassador of Algeria to Yugoslavia, Romania and Albania with residence in Belgrade. He was also Ambassador of Algeria to Indonesia and Kampuchea with residence in Jakarta from 1964 to 1970. Mr Demaghlatus is a member of the High Islamic Council. He is married and has four children. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 21 Sep 82 p 8]

AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN--The government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has decided to appoint Mr M Matiur Rahman, former Secretary, Commerce Division; Ministry of Industries and Commerce; as Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan says an official announcement. Born on September 1, 1923 Mr. M Matiur Rahman graduated from the Calcutta University and obtained his Master Degree in Political Science and LLB Degree from the University of Dacca. He also completed a Master's Degree Course of Studies in International Relations. He was a Lecturer in Political Science in the Dacca University in 1948-49. During the period between 1949-72, Mr M Matiur Rahman held various important assignments under the erstwhile Government of Pakistan including Under Secretary, Deputy Secretary in the Central Ministry of Finance, Member Finance and Development of IWT; Finance Director of National Shipping Corporation of Pakistan with the rank and status of Additional Secretary to the Central Government. He served as Secretary in the Ministry of Industries, Government of Bangladesh, from 1974-75. Before his present assignment, Mr. Rahman was serving as Secretary, Commerce Division, Ministry of Industries and Commerce since 1976. He is a widely travelled person and has led his country's delegations in many international conferences. He is married and has eight children. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 13 Sep 82 pp 1, 8]

CHITTAGONG MUNICIPAL CORPORATION--The Government has promulgated Chittagong Municipal Corporation Ordinance converting Chittagong Pourashava into Chittagong Municipal Corporation, says a PID handout. Brigadier Mufizur Rahman Chowdhury, Commandant, East Bengal Regimental Centre, Chittagong Cantonment, has been appointed Administrator of the Corporation. He will work in addition to his own duties. Mr. Fazal Karim, ex-Chairman of the erstwhile Chittagong Pourashava has been appointed Deputy Administrator of the Corporation. The Government has appointed Additional Deputy Commissioners (Dev) as chairmen of Pourashavas situated at their respective District Headquarters, Sub-divisional Officers as chairmen of Pourashavas at their Sub-divisional Headquarters and Assistant Commissioners/Circle Officers (Dev) as chairmen of Pourashavas at their Thana Headquarters and other important places. The Government has however, appointed Additional Deputy Commissioner (Rev) Rangpur as Chairman of Saidpur Pourashava and Sub-divisional Officer Gazipur as Chairman of Dongi Pourashava. All the officers will act as chairmen of their Pourashavas in addition to their own duties. They have been directed to take over charge of their respective Pourashavas forthwith. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Sep 82 p 1]

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER--The new Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Mr. Christopher William Westdal presented his credentials to President Mr. Justice Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at Bangabhaban on Thursday morning reports BSS. Presenting his credentials the envoy said he would strive to promote further the ties to friendship and cooperation between his country and Bangladesh to the mutual benefit of both the nations. The President reciprocated the sentiment expressed by the envoy and assured all necessary support to him in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities. Earlier on arrival at Bangabhaban the new Canadian High Commissioner took the salute given by a smartly turned out contingent of the President's Guard Regiment and inspected the guards. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Sep 82 p 8]

EXPORT EARNINGS--The total export from Bangladesh during July-August this year amounted to Tk. 190.02 crore as against Tk. 159.95 crore during the same period last year showing an increase of Tk. 30.07 crore, it was learnt officially. Export earnings in respect of items like frozen food, tea and agricultural products exceeded their average target for July-August this year. There has been an increase in the export earnings of raw jute, leather, frozen food, tea (including packet tea), readymade garments, newsprint, paper and allied products, agricultural products etc. during the first two months of the current financial year in comparison with the export earnings of the corresponding period of the preceding year. Besides, items like naphtha, furnace oil and bitumen, chemical and pharmaceutical products and engineering goods which did not move during July-August, last year were also exported during the first 2 months of the current fiscal year. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 24 Sep 82 p 8]

CSO: 4600/1047/1048

BRIEFS

PEOPLE'S ARMY-SSA BATTLE ACTION--On 2 October a small unit of the People's Army attacked the military government's mercenary 8th infantry regiment at (?Na-hwe), (Kyaukgu) region in Central Shan State. The attack killed three enemy soldiers. One G-2, one grenade and more than 500 rounds of ammunition were seized from the enemy. Joint battle report of the People's Army and the Shan State Army [SSA]: On 26 June, a bridge on Lashio-Mong Yai Road, used by the military government mercenary army, was blown up and destroyed. On 5 July, a small combined unit of the People's Army and the SSA attacked the mercenary 1st Shan rifles regiment at (Wan Hpong) in the Mong Nawng area. The attack killed two enemy soldiers and wounded two others. On the same day an attack by the combined unit resulted in two enemy soldiers being killed and two others wounded in Mong Nawng. On 7 July, an ambush by a combined force of the People's Army and the SSA near (?Na-ya) on Lashio-Hsipaw Road resulted in five enemy soldiers, including a police station commander, being killed and four motorcycles destroyed. On the same day mines planted on Lashio-Hsipaw Road killed an enemy soldier from the military government's mercenary 23d infantry regiment and wounded another. Furthermore, a mercenary lance corporal was killed and three others were wounded in the (Paw Tang) village battle in (?Hsawngke) Township. On 12 July, an attack by a small combined force of the People's Army and the SSA at (Wan Hpong) in Mong Nawng Region resulted in two enemy soldiers being wounded. [Text] [BK100814 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 10 Oct 82]

JOINT BATTLE REPORT--Joint battle report of the People's Army and the Shan State Army [SSA]: On 20 June, a combined force of the People's Army and the SSA attacked the military government's 1st Shan rifles regiment near (Linmut) village in (Kong Pang) District, killing almost 20 enemy soldiers, including one mercenary sergeant and two corporals, and wounding five. On the same day, a clash at Lawa killed three enemy soldiers and wounded two others. On 21, 22, 23, 25 and 29 June, attacks carried out by the combined forces of the People's Army and the SSA at (Hanam), (Kyepaung), (Honu), (Banwut), (?Nawng Son) and (Natban) Bank killed over 10 enemy soldiers including four defense volunteers and wounded nine others. On 4, 5, 10, 19, 20 and 24 July, battles were fought in Ke-hsi Region, (Nawng Chun), Namwan, (Mong Kawng), (?Mong Awt), Namsamhu, (Pang Lao) and (Kunle). More than 10 enemy soldiers were killed and eight were wounded during the clashes. On 29 August, a combined force of the People's Army and the SSA attacked the military government's mercenary 104th infantry division on (Tashi) Road in Mong Nawng, killing six enemy soldiers and wounding others. A G-2, a G-4, an M-79 mortar with folding stock, ammunition including 19 mortar shells and military equipment were seized from the enemy. [Text] [BK081410 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 8 Oct 82]

CSO: 4211/40

GANDHI VISIT TO USSR DESCRIBED AS 'FRUITFUL'

BK081710 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 28 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Back from Moscow"]

[Text] The prime minister has returned home after a fruitful visit to the Soviet Union. The joint declaration simultaneously released in New Delhi and Moscow adds little to what had been already spelt out earlier in public statements and briefings. However it does emphasise strong and continuing bonds of friendship and a deeper understanding by each country of the other's point of view, despite some differences as on Afghanistan, and a consolidation of economic relations.

Disarmament is a hoary topic which has figured in earlier communiques too. The proposals for general and nuclear disarmament endorsed by the two sides on this occasion specify a freeze on the production and deployment of nuclear weapons, a convention on non-use of nuclear weapons, the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, and a prohibition on the development of new weapons of mass destruction. These items have been on the superpowers' agenda and before UN disarmament fora. Mr Brezhnev obviously had in mind India's soon-to-be-assumed role as chairman of the nonaligned conference from next year and was possibly seeking a commitment on a package that the West might however think contentious since the Soviet Union is regarded by it as having a lead in nuclear and conventional weapons in critical areas as presently deployed. India and the nonaligned world generally might also be attracted by the Soviet proposition that funds released by disarmament should be channelled towards augmenting assistance to the developing nations. Welcome as these propositions are, they cannot be delinked from the realities of the global balance of power. The same is true of the proposition that the Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace. How precisely this can be achieved is a task for the proposed UN conference on the Indian Ocean which is to be held next year.

With regard to Indo-Soviet relations, Mrs Gandhi erred in discussing with the Soviet leadership the alleged role of the Communist Party of India against her government in league with "rightist" elements such as the Bharatiya Janata Party. The prime minister has stated on her return to Delhi that there was no question of her "complaining" to anybody in Moscow as this is purely an internal matter and that she merely surveyed the scene in India for the benefit

of her Soviet hosts just as they made a presentation of their perceptions and concerns to her. Be that as it may, the prime minister was ill-advised to have broached the topic. The two sides agreed to work towards a significant increase in mutual trade, even a doubling, over the next 4 years. While this is to be welcomed it would appear necessary to review whether the rupee trade arrangement requires any modification so that the country's balance of payments is not upset for lack of foreign exchange earnings on exports to the Soviet Union or on account of any switch trade by that country. On the whole, however, the visit, as expected, has cemented old ties and opened up new avenues for further cooperation.

CSO: 4600/1088

EDITORIAL NOTES DISTRICT, PROVINCE RESPONSIBILITIES IN ECONOMIC PLANNING

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 23 Aug 82 p 1

['Editorial': Improve the Relationship between the Central and Local Economy]

[Text] The central and local economies are all part of the same framework. Therefore, improvement in the central and local economies is useful for the expansion of the entire national economic base.

An important problem in correcting the relationships between the central and local economies according to the policy of the party and the government is to concentrate in building the district economy effectively. Each district should focus on its special economic and geographical aspects in order to plan agricultural and forestry production bases to expand occupational skills in handicrafts, small-scale industry, household products, and materials construction industry, and to ensure self-sufficiency in the food supply. Meanwhile, household products production must be encouraged and improved to respond to the needs of the people and to contribute to the government.

The provincial level must become the strategic headquarters in all aspects by setting up agricultural and forestry settlements, machinery and electric power bases construction equipment and household goods production, food supplies, etc. When they succeed in being self-sufficient in terms of food supplies, [they should] fulfill the needs for household goods. Localities exchange [goods] with the center and different provinces, and engage in exporting. Meanwhile, different provinces should have plans to encourage and train different types of management cadres on the district and base levels to improve their ability in production and production control systematically and efficiently.

The central echelon sections are responsible for the management of economic bases which are useful keys for the entire nation. These are new cooperation projects with foreign countries and continue the exporting of strategic goods such as coffee cardamom, wood products, mineral ores, etc. Big cities like Vientiane Capital must effectively increase the construction and management in many aspects in order to make the cities the central symbol of politics, the economy, and the new society, and to steadily strengthen the relationship between the cities and rural areas with workers and farmers.

These are the main aspects of the plan concerning the improvement of the central and local economy of our party and government. The cadres and the people who are responsible for this work should study it thoroughly and implement it correctly in order to correct economic problems in each district and province in our country, to become united, and to have division of work, production plans, and exchange among themselves in order to make our large rural areas plentiful sources for food supplies, household goods, and goods for export. This is to respond appropriately to the needs of the people of all nationalities and to contribute to the government.

9884

CSO: 4206/83

COLUMNIST LINKS MAOISTS, DENG, U.S. LEADERSHIP

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 24 Aug 82 pp 2,4

['Talking Together' Column: "Tricks Cannot Change Political Reality"]

[Text] Last year Chinese leaders carried out a foreign policy of cooperating with the imperialists and the reactionaries to resist the socialist world, and revolutionary and peace-loving forces. These politics have been sharply assailed by communist party leaders, workers, those who are interested in the joyous expansion of the revolutionary world, and those who are interested in strengthening peace and building up friendship among peoples of all nationalities.

The attendees who joined the meeting of communist party delegates and workers of eastern Mediterranean countries and the countries in the east close to the Middle East and the Red Sea in Athens in September 1981 saw the U.S. policy as being aimed at their allies to carry out the reactionary U.S. policy, and to block the easing of tensions. According to the statement that was accepted by the meeting, a special danger arises from Chinese leaders whose policy is anti-Soviet and who support the aggressive, warmongering policy of the Pentagon and NATO. They continue to be enemies of Vietnam and other countries. They have done great damage to the rights and national interests of the Chinese people and Chinese workers, and have weakened the international revolutionary movement. They have also weakened the movement towards peace and social advancement.

Beijing's policy favors imperialism and endangers peace and happiness of people. The speeches of the delegates of the Communist Party in Canada, Ireland and the U.S. Communist Party at the conference in Montreal in November 1981 condemned this. Speaking of the United States' anti-revolutionary strategy in general, Le Duan, the secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam's central committee in his speech to the Fifth Congress of the VCP 3 April 1982 said that for this purpose the U.S. has a new ally, the reactionary group of Chinese leaders. The collaboration between the imperialist leaders and the Chinese expansionists has created an international situation with special characteristics. Playing "the China card" by the U.S. leaders and the U.S.-China cooperation is a threat to world peace, security, and stability, and is a particularly strong threat to nations in Asia.

Why are the former anti-imperialists in the communist movement for the victory of the Chinese revolution now standing on the opposite side? Mao Zedong and his followers in the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the organizers of the revolutionary regime of the petit-bourgeois, have shown a sudden change following the victories and various set-backs. He favored the leftist, but he did not follow the revolutionary opinions all the way to the right by standing on nationalism and claiming to be a great power. They set a goal to make China a great country and master of the world. [The actions] they carried out to achieve these goals were different depending on the historical era.

Not long after the announcement of the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the Chinese leaders announced that the Chinese revolutionary lesson was spreading to revolutionary movements in many countries in Asia and Oceania. They asked the communist parties of India, Indonesia, Japan, and other countries to follow the "path of China," and the path of the Chinese military struggle by setting up liberated regions in the rural areas, and encircling the towns, etc. In doing this they did not consider the geographical, historical, economic, social, and political aspects of those countries, which are different from the Chinese situation. They also insulted the special characteristics and revolutionary tradition and the lessons and communist ideology of those countries. At the end of the 50's and the beginning of the 60's Mao Zedong set a path for China not just to control some communist parties but all of the communist movement. In the Communist Party and worker congress in Moscow in 1957 Mao Zedong called for a declaration of nuclear world war. He thought that if half of the world's population died, there would be another half left. He included the imperialists among those who would all die. Then there would be only socialist countries left in the world, and within only half a century the number of people would increase by more than half.

Mao hoped that an attack between the two power would occur. The fight between the USSR and the American imperialists would weaken both countries, and as a result China would be able to control the world.

Many other communist leaders refused to accept the Chinese Communist party leader's ambition of leadership in the communist movement, and refused to accept the Chinese slogan. When he realized that communists all over the world were resisting Beijing's expansionist policy, the Chinese leader fought against the international Communist movement. In the mid-sixties the Chinese Communist Party leaders started to set up Chinese political groups, thinking to use these movements to expand Mao's political ideology within the international area which was the anti-Communist movement. However, the idea of hoping to set up "international Maoism" has disappeared.

What was exciting about Beijing's propaganda in foreign policy was its selfishness and many mistakes. Beijing's invasion of Vietnam, and the open collaboration between the Chinese and American imperialists and other reactionaries has made members who once believed in "Mao Thought" give up on Maoism.

Maoist groups outside China today are faced with a great many crises. When Mao Zedong was still alive there were more than 100 groups in many different countries, and now there are only somewhat more than 20 groups left. Moreover, these groups have stopped their movements and have refused to follow Beijing's path. Though it is very clear that there is no future for the "Maoist movement," the Chinese Communist Party leaders still hope for Maoist circles in foreign countries. A strange incident clearly occurred in the beginning of 1979 after the Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping returned from his visit to the U.S. It was not just an accident that after the visit China invaded socialist Vietnam. There was collaboration between Beijing and the U.S. leaders in the "punishment" and in Anti-Sovietism. Assistance was given by Beijing and Washington to the Afghan counterrevolutionary resistance and other reactionaries who are in the imperialists' network. These activities included preparations for the visit, and the visit to China of E. Berlinguer and S. Carrillo in 1980. Finally, there is the relationship between the Chinese Communist Party and the Communist parties of Italy and Spain. The emulation in setting up such an incident has caused a foreign affairs observer to question whether there is a true relationship between the political collaboration with the imperialists by Beijing and the imperialists' goal to use Beijing as a "Trojan horse" in the revolutionary movement. This idea was published in the Spanish newspaper CAMBIO 16 in December 1980. Based on the testimony of L. Wolf, a former U.S. CIA agent, the CIA forced the communist Party in Spain to be pro-Chinese. Therefore, the CIA sent its people to the Communist Party in Spain.

The statement of the agent in Washington made people aware and proved that the U.S. leaders [sabotaged] the revolutionary forces by using China. For example, (Pillsbury), a U.S. senate staff member, said it would be beneficial for the U.S. if China told them who was who in the revolutionary movement in foreign countries.

The imperialist consider the division of work important. For example, their work is to attack the outside revolutionary movement by creating factions and quarrels, and Beijing accepts this role. Moreover, they boast that they are useful to the imperialists. The Chinese newspaper BANYUE TAN said that today the U.S., Western Europe, and Japan need the Chinese forces.

By getting involved with some communist parties, the Communist Party leaders; goals are to ease the conflict between the world communist movement and the pro-imperialist Chinese policy, and to pull the Communist movement together. The hope is to pull some parts of the movement into a group called the "anti-Soviet expansion project," based on the Chinese leaders' goals in this project. The group includes China, the imperialists, reactionary regimes, and some leftists.

9884

CSO: 4206/84

VIENTIANE GOVERNOR ASSESSES DEVELOPMENTS, BLASTS U.S. ON UPRISING ANNIVERSARY

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 23 Aug 82 p 2

[Interview with Mr Phao Phimphachan Chairman of the Provincial Administrative Committee of Vientiane Capital on the Occasion of the Seventh Anniversary for the Seizing of Power; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] When 23 August is mentioned I and the people of all nationalities and ages are all very proud of this historic day for Laos, especially in Vientiane Capital.

Continuing the brave heritage of Laos, 23 August 1975 in Vientiane Capital marks the anniversary of the uprising to completely seize power from the old administration of alien imperialists, reactionary traitors, and the Vientiane puppets to give to our Lao people. August 23 opened a new and most important era. It was a power seizure of the entire country and the announcement of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 2 December 1975. Everyone well knows that Vientiane in the old regime was the last nest of the running dogs, the reactionary henchmen, and the rightists in Laos. Therefore, the seizing of power from the extreme rightist reactionaries in Vientiane was a most difficult, complex, and urgent problem; however, with the intelligent and capable leadership of the LPRP, the overthrow of the old regime and the seizing of the administrative power of Vientiane succeeded without any bloodshed or damage to the people's property. Plainly speaking, there was not a single gunshot. This incident caught the interest of most of the world, and we ourselves are most proud of the important victory for Lao history.

After the nation was completely liberated, Vientiane Capital as well as other places over the entire country established the administration of workers and has been well improved since that time. Extra attention has been paid to national defense and security work to maintain order within the capital, to improve the economy, culture, and society, and to steadily raise the standard of living of the cadres and the people. In national defense and security work, even though the American imperialists were defeated in the war of aggression, they have not yet stopped playing their tricks aimed at destroying our new regime. The American imperialists collude with expansionist China and

have cooperated with the reactionaries in the area. They sent spies and looters in to keep on destroying the peace and happiness of the people. Another thing that they use psychological warfare to sabotage political, economic, social, and cultural aspects. We all along with the people within Vientiane Capital have worked to promptly destroy and suppress all of their tricks. This results in peace and security all over Vientiane Capital. Our Third Party Congress was 100 percent safe, we have limited and corrected social evils within the capital city, and have made the security work become the work of all the people.

Economic aspects. Vientiane Capital is the political, economic, and cultural center. Therefore, the economic problem has been very well paid attention to, for example, the improvement and building up of industrial, handicraft, and agricultural areas. In Vientiane right after the liberation different factories all stopped their production. A number of capitalists, the owners of the factories, fled the country and left their factories broken down and deserted. Thus the party and government controlled and revived them. Up to now many industrial and handicraft factories are operating effectively at their normal levels and send out products to the people. Meanwhile, additional factories are being built, for example, the Vientiane-Hanoi Friendship Brick and Tile Factory, 70 percent of whose foundation has been completed. In agricultural work they attentively set up an experimental area for production. In Hatsuifong District electric pumps were installed in many places, an irrigation system was set up, and the people were encouraged to produce normally. For example, planting and animal raising for the government, collective groups, the people and the cadres have been steadily expanded. Domestic animals have been increased every year. At the present time all over Vientiane Capital there are 37 agricultural co-ops. Meanwhile, trade work such as State trade and collective trade has been steadily improved and expanded. Up to now, Vientiane is considered self-sufficient in food supplies, and the standard of living of the people has been raised one step higher.

On the occasion of the implementation of the Third Party Congress, and the carrying out of the first Five Year Plan of the government and of Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Capital attentively struggled in carrying out its own plan to the expected level, and to make the plenum of the Third Party Congress become reality. For example, it paid good attention to public security work, corrected social evils, had a better control on district regulations than before, limited and wiped out what was left over from the old society, resisted the enemies' psychological warfare, organized and led production and pushed strongly agricultural production, pushed forward industrial and trade production, normalized the standard of living of the people, effectively organized and controlled food supplies for buying and selling, solved the traffic transportation on time, encouraged exports to maintain stability in the market, encouraged education, public health, and culture, and related this work to the base construction work and led them on to endless progress.

PUBLIC SECURITY SERVICE REGIMENT DECORATES PERSONNEL FOR PARTY CONGRESS WORK

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 23 Aug 82 pp 1, 4

[Article]

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 August 1982 the Ministry of Interior held a commendation and decoration ceremony for public security service cadres, and combatants, in political work for Public Security Service Regiment 53 and who had outstanding achievements in the work of protection during the Third Congress of the LPRP.

The honored guests who attended the ceremony were Colonel Soutchai Thammasit, cadre organization department chief, and representatives of each regiment subordinate to the Ministry along with hundreds of cadres and combatants of Public Security Service Regiment 53.

Among the cadres and combatants who received medals and commendations this time, one unit of Public Security Service Regiment 53 received the independence medal second class. Five sections received medals and commendations as follows. One comrade received the independence medal second class; 3 comrades received the independence medal third class; 14 cadres received the labor medal second class; 31 comrades received the labor medal third class; 30 comrades received labor medals, 27 comrades received commendations from the government, and 44 comrades received commendations from the Ministry of Interior.

After the medals and commendations, Colonel Soutchai Thammasit gave a speech in which first of all he wholeheartedly congratulated and praised the recent success and victory of the cadres and combatants of the Ministry of Interior. At the same time he pointed out the tricks of our enemies, the Beijing expansionists, the imperialists and their henchmen, and the reactionaries who want to destroy us. He also asked all cadres and combatants to increase their patriotism and their love for socialism, internal and international solidarity, and to be ready always to fight against all the destructive movements of the enemy. He asked everyone to work to emulate in order to successfully and victoriously implement the resolutions of the Third Party Congress in the actual work of individuals.

9884

CSO: 4206/84

OFFICER COMPLAINS OF UNEQUAL TREATMENT FOR OVERSEAS RETURNEES, RANK STRUCTURE

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 21 Aug 82 p 2

['Conversation with the Editor' Column: They Complete Their Study but [they Are Not Appointed to Ranks Equivalent to Their Educational Level]

[Text] [Question] To the editor. First of all I don't understand one thing. What I agree with is the party and government's plan for sending students to study abroad every year. However, what I do not agree with is that when some students complete their studies at the high and mid-level they are not [given] ranks equivalent to their level. For example, a military academy student went to study in Vietnam as a 1st lieutenant. When he came back he was equivalent to a sergeant or corporal. Why is this so? Will this not hurt his morale?

I hope you can clear it up for me. Please forgive me if there are any grammatical mistakes. Phonsavat, International T.M. [Expansion unknown], Vattay.

[Answer] To Comrade Phonsavat. First of all, forgive me [but] I want to tell you that your written Lao is not correct in spelling and in grammar. Thus, you need to practice and restudy. I could mention quite a lot, e.g., the phrases you wrote (10 ek, 10 tho, san song, san kang, sap son) and many others. They are all wrong. However, I am able to guess what you wanted to write was (sergeant, corporal, high-level, mid-level, assigned). So that is why I want you to restudy, especially writing the Lao alphabet, to have correct spelling. Your phrases have all been corrected, and I hope you are satisfied with them.

I would like to discuss your question in two parts.

1. At whatever level a student finishes his study abroad as well as within the country he will be given rank at that level. This has been carried out for a long time, and I have not yet seen anything like you mentioned. There might be some cases such as mid-level graduates who have not yet been given rank because they need to have on-the-job experience for a period of time first. It could be like this. It used to be that some high-level graduates could not even do low-level work. In speaking this way I do not mean to

insult the diploma or high-level graduate at all. The examinations on the actual work after students have graduated at any level is possible. The reason for this is to know the quality and ability of that student and whether he really is at the high-level curriculum. This is the examination that has been carried out. However, it has never happened that the Ministry of Education made the rank equivalent right after graduation, as you wrote. That is only an old story that is brought up in a general way without careful thought.

2. You mentioned something about [someone] who graduated as a 1st lieutenant from a military academy. Is this true? I really doubt that for military academies in countries such as Vietnam as well as in other places that I know, that when one graduates from them with good grades he will receive a rank of 2nd lieutenant. Those who graduate with an average grade will be sub-lieutenants and the lower grades will be master sergeants (the former rank) or sergeant as in our country today. You should check it out to be sure, and we can discuss it again, or you were especially good at your study and made 1st lieutenant right after graduation. I really doubt that.

9884

CSO: 4206/84

POSSIBLE SHIFT OF CAPITAL TO KEO-UDOM DISCUSSED, DISTRICTS NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Aug 82 p 2

['Conversation with the Editor' Column: "How Many Cities Are There in Vientiane Capital and in Vientiane Province?"]

[Text] [Question] To the editor. I have an interesting problem that I often used to discuss with my friends, and no one has been able to clear this problem up for me.

1. I have heard that Vientiane Province and Vientiane Capital have divided themselves into two separate sections. Is this true or are they still combined as province-capital as before?
2. If they really were separated, how many districts are there in Vientiane Province and in Vientiane Capital? What are they? Where will the Provincial seat for Vientiane Province be located? I hope you can clear this up for me. Thank you. Viangmani, 13 August 1982.

[Answer] Dear Comrade Viangmani. First of all I would like to thank you for your letter. I would like to discuss it as follows.

1. It should not be just a rumor but it was officially announced that the former province-capital has now been divided into 2 separate divisions which are called

--Vientiane Capital or the Capital of Vientiane
--Vientiane Province.

2. Vientiane Capital consists of 7 towns: 1. Chanthabouli; 2. Sikottabong; 3. Saisettha; 4. Sisattanak; 5. Hatsaifong; 6. Saithani; and 7. Nasaithong. Vientiane Province consists of 9 towns: 1. Phon Hong; 2. Keo-Oudom; 3. Vang Vieng; 4. Kasi; 5. Saisanasomboun; 6. Thoulakom; 7. Hom District; 8. Paksan; and 9. Pheung Branch-District.

As for Vientiane Province's seat, it is now located in Vientiane Capital (in the former Vientiane Trade Section). If you wish you can contact them directly. As for Vientiane Capital, it is located at the same place (Dalasamout School).

As for the future [seat] of Vientiane Province, it might be located in Keo-Oudom District. This [information] is based on the plan only. I myself think Keo-Oudom District is the best location for it. I think if hotels and recreation areas are built there I am sure that the people of the capital will stay over night there regularly. If you don't believe me, just try to build beaches at Nam Ngeum Reservoir with convenient hotels and good roads. I believe Vientiane Province will have a fairly good income from tourists because the Nam Ngeum Reservoir is no different from a small sea.

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CSO: 4206/84

CHAMPASSAK ASSISTS PRK PROVINCE IN REPAIR WORK

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 26 Aug 82 pp 1, 3

[Article: "Champassak Assists Stung Treng Province in Shop Repairs"]

[Text] On the afternoon of 12 August, in Stung Treng Province in the People's Republic of Kampuchea, a ceremony was held to transfer a trade outlet that was repaired by Champassak Province.

This is a two-story building with 7 rooms, 25.4 meters wide and 26.4 meters long, that Champassak engineers and workers have been repairing from 5 June 1981 until 22 July 1982. A total of 661,146 kip worth of repairs was made.

In the ceremony Mr Thong-In Thammakot, assistant secretary of the provincial party committee and the chairman of the provincial administrative committee of Champassak, and Mr Khamphan Thivong, assistant secretary of the provincial party committee and the chairman of the provincial administrative committee of Stung Treng Province, took turns giving official speeches for giving and accepting this building in the presence of invited guests on both sides. The chairmen of both provinces referred to the brave fighting heritage and the glorious victory which the people of the two nations, Laos and Kampuchea, achieved in the protection and construction of their own countries in the past. They especially pointed out the special and solid friendship, solidarity, and cooperation in all aspects that steadily grows between the people of Champassak and Stung Treng Provinces.

On the visit and transfer of the trade outlet that was completely repaired to Stung Treng Province, representatives of Champassak Province also participated in additional discussions with Stung Treng Province involving cooperation concerning the economy, education, culture, and other aspects in order to steadily and endlessly strengthen the relationship between the two provinces and the people of the two nations Laos and Kampuchea.

9884

CSO: 4206/83

BRIEFS

NEW VIENTIANE DISTRICT POPULATION--Bolikhhan District's population is 55,299 persons and 8991 families. This includes 8,191 agricultural families under 15 cantons; 11 cantons primarily engage in wet rice paddy production. This district is subordinate to Vientiane Province and is located in the middle of many [rivers], e.g., the Nam Kading, Nam Son, Nam Ngiab, Houai Thavai, Houai Ching, and Houai Mang. Each river flows to the Megong River all year round. The area is lowland that is easily flooded by water from the Mekong or the other rivers mentioned. The ricefields in all of Bolikhhan total 6,341 hectares, and 1,646 hectares of swidden ricefields. Because the ricefield area is smaller than the number of families in the population, each year the district farmers' important responsibility is to expand their ricefield area. [Excerpt] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 26 Aug 82 p 2] 9884

GUERRILLA STRENGTH--Along with the attentive work of strong protection of the lives and property of the people within the locality, in the beginning of July a guerilla unit in Laman Canton, Laman District, Saravane Province also organized political studies and training in strategy and fighting tactics. Over 100 cadres and guerilla combatants from many different villages participated. After the political lifestyle campaigns and the military training mentioned, they raised political ideology, strategy, and fighting tactics another step higher in order to strengthen the military forces of the people in the locality, and to ensure and maintain the peace and security of the nation. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 21 Aug 82 p 1] 9884

STUDENTS IN CSSR--Two hundred and twenty Lao students are studying Czech for three months in the Language Center for Foreign Students in Veselicko, South Bohemia. After completing their language study these Lao youth will be trained for three years in economic fields by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 21 Aug 82 p 4] 9884

PHONG SALY DISTRICT POPULATION, COOPERATIVES--Mai District is subordinate to Phong Saly Province. It adjoins Samphan and Khoua Districts on the north, Luang Prabang Province on the south, and Lai Chau Province (Vietnam) on the east. It is a fertile district that has plentiful natural resources. There are wide ranges of beautiful mountains, cliffs, and forests that alternate with marshes and streams. Presently in all of Mai District there are 11 cantons, 108 villages, 2,589 families, and 2,532 houses. Its total population is 16,189 people, including 8,261 women. There has been a change in rice

farming from privately owned , scattered holdings to cooperative units within their district. All over Mai District, co-ops now total 29 units, 10 units of highland rice farming and wet rice farming, and 28 units of highland rice farming co-ops. Based on the report of the district committee for Mai District, there are 672-13 hectares of completely planted ricefields over the entire district. They harvest almost 2 tons per hectare on the average each year and since the co-ops have been set up none of these co-ops has had a rice shortage. [Excerpts] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 23 Aug 82 p 2] 9884

VANG VIENG POPULATION--Nowadays Vang Vieng District has a population of more than 52,000 people. There are 6 cantons and 213 villages. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Aug 82 p 1] 9884

CSO: 4206/84

NEPAL

BRIEFS

EGYPTIAN ENVOY LEAVES--Egyptian Ambassador to Nepal Fawzi Mahbub left here Thursday morning after completing his term of office here. [BK210425 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 15 Oct 82 p 1]

CSO: 4200/51

HAQ INTERVIEWED BY 'XINHUA' CORRESPONDENT

BK161020 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has described Pakistan's relations with China as model relationship. In an interview with XINHUA and Radio Beijing correspondents in Rawalpindi on the eve of his forthcoming visit to China, he said the two countries have the most friendly relations and these are relations which could be the envy of any country.

The president said China is a bigger partner and Pakistan is a smaller partner. China has been able to allow us to maintain a relationship on an equal level of fraternity and freedom.

Speaking highly of the principles of peaceful co-existence, China has followed in the international relations, he said China has set an example for the larger country. The People's Republic of China has never interfered in the internal affairs of any country, especially of the smaller ones. He said we are proud of being China's neighbor.

Referring to Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan issue, the President said that the problem should be solved politically. He pointed out that the UN resolution can form the basis for the solution of this problem and a successful conclusion can be achieved.

Referring to the indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva, the President emphasized that he will not compromise on the four principles which we have followed all along. These are: that the foreign troops must withdraw from Afghanistan, Afghanistan's status as a nonaligned Islamic country must be restored, refugees must return with honor and dignity to their homes and it should be left to the people of Afghanistan to choose the type of government they want.

Exactly on the same principles, he said: We support the stand of noninterference in Kampuchea. We believe outside interference is not in the interest of international peace.

On the situation in the Middle East, he said unless the people of Palestine are allowed to have a homeland of their own and UN resolutions are implemented by the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied homeland, there could be no solution to the Middle East problem.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq crisis, the President said both sides should find a peaceful solution to this problem. We hope that not in the too distant future the ceasefire and solution will be found.

He said Pakistan has followed the five basic principles of peaceful co-existence which China has also advocated. We have followed the principles of non-interference in anybody's internal affairs. We have also followed the principle of cordial relations and relationship on mutual respect and understanding, irrespective of the size and people of the country or the form of government they may have.

Speaking about the achievements in the economic reconstruction, he said the backbone of the country's economy rests on agriculture. The agricultural production has increased by 4 percent while the national economy as a whole registered a growth rate of 6 percent. Such economic improvement has been the result of hard work of the people.

The President said he is looking forward to meeting with the Chinese leaders and exchanging views with them on international issues and bilateral matters during his forthcoming visit to China.

In conclusion, the President conveyed good wishes from the people and government of Pakistan and his own self for the prosperity and progress of the great people of China. He said: We wish and pray that China will continue to progress and play the role that China deserves to play in international field.

CSO: 4200/52

HAQ REAFFIRMS SOLID FRIENDSHIP WITH CHINA

BK180755 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that it is the endeavor of both Pakistan and China that all peace-loving forces should be strengthened and there should be such a system in which countries—big or small, powerful or weak—could live in peace according to their way of life. He was speaking at a banquet given in his honor in Beijing this evening by Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang. He said it is gratifying that Pakistan and China are working shoulder to shoulder for preservation of peace and the elimination of war. Like China, Pakistan has no aggressive designs against any one or to trample the life of others. We only want that the internationally recognized principles should be adhered to and every country should have the right to live in peace with honor and dignity.

The president said we greatly value friendship with China and feel proud that it has grown with the passage of time. Despite changes in the region and at the international level, their friendship had not only withstood the test of time but had become enviable for the entire world. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said it was imperative to remove all causes of conflict wherever they exist so that peace is strengthened. He said Pakistan looks with admiration about China's efforts to improve its relations with India and itself desires a tension-free relationship with its eastern neighbors. In this connection, Pakistan had taken the initiative and made the offer of a no-war pact to India to promote mutual confidence. We are determined, he said, to take forward this process so that it could lead to the signing of such a pact as well as improvement in bilateral relations.

The president strongly condemned the Israeli aggression against the Palestinians in Lebanon and reiterated Pakistan's stand that lasting peace in the Middle East could only be achieved by respecting the national independence and territorial integrity, the [word indistinct] by Israel of all occupied Arab territories including al-Qods and the right of the Palestinians to set up their own independent state.

The president said Pakistan supports the eight-point program adopted at the third Arab summit for a solution of the Middle East crisis. He said President Reagan's plan has a number of (?aspects) which could help bridge the existing gulf in achieving a settlement of the Middle East problem.

The president said another serious problem in Pakistan's neighborhood was that of Afghanistan which still remains unresolved. As a result of this problem 2.6 million refugees have been forced to seek shelter in Pakistan. The president said Pakistan was looking after the refugees and would continue to do so in accordance with its Islamic obligations and on humanitarian grounds. He said they wanted a solution of the problem whereby these refugees could return to their homes with honor and dignity, foreign troops withdrawn from Afghanistan and the Afghan people allowed to have the government of their own choice in accordance with their own principles.

The president also referred to the Iran-Iraq war and made a spirited appeal to the countries to end the war in view of the sanctity of the month of Muharram and to resolve their disputes peacefully.

General Mohammad Ziaul Haq also referred to Kampuchea. He said, like Afghanistan, in that country also international principles had been trampled. He said Pakistan strongly condemns the military intervention in Kampuchea. He said we want the independence and sovereignty of both Afghanistan and Kampuchea to be restored and the people of these countries allowed to determine their future themselves without any outside pressure.

In his speech, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang said the development of Sino-Pakistan friendly relations is conducive not only to the prosperity of the two countries but to the maintenance of peace and stability in Asia and the world at large. He said China and Pakistan are faced with the common task of safeguarding the independence and sovereignty and developing the national economy of their respective countries. We are willing to work together with our Pakistani friends to make up each other's deficiencies, help meet each other's needs and on the basis of equality and mutual benefit further develop the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in political, economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other fields.

Zhao Ziyang said relations between the two countries had grown in strength and developed steadily despite the vicissitudes of the international situation. These relations have stood the test of time. The Chinese prime minister said since his last visit to Pakistan a year ago, the international situation has become more turbulent and unstable and the Afghanistan question remains unsolved. As is known, the Afghan question stems from a superpower's military invasion of Afghanistan. Therefore, a genuine settlement of this question can be reached when the superpower withdraws all its troops from that country. He said Pakistan, upholding justice and adhering to peace, has worked tirelessly for a just solution of the Afghanistan problem and provided generous humanitarian aid to the Afghan refugees now in Pakistan. He said the just stand taken by Pakistan has won widespread commendation and support from people the world over as well as the deep admiration of the Chinese people.

He said in foreign relations Pakistan firmly pursues the policy of independence and nonalignment and endeavors to strengthen its unity and cooperation with other Third World and Islamic countries. It works hard to improve relations with other countries in South Asia. He said Pakistan has achieved marked successes in defending national independence and sovereignty and developing national economy. He said to strengthen our unity and cooperation with other Third World countries and develop and consolidate Sino-Pakistan friendship are the set policies of the Chinese Government. He reiterated that China will as always resolutely support the government and interferences from outside and defend national independence and state sovereignty.

CSO: 4200/52

HAQ REITERATES PEACEFUL FOREIGN POLICY

BK091223 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Commentary by Enamur Rahman]

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan as a peace-loving country had always followed a policy of peaceful coexistence and opposed aggression. Addressing army officers and men at Attock yesterday he said Pakistan had endeavored to foster an atmosphere of trust, confidence, peace and tranquillity among the nations at global level in general and earnestly desired to have fraternal ties with the neighboring countries in particular.

There is no doubt that ever since independence Pakistan had endeavored to promote the cause of peace and goodneighborly relations (?between nations). It had extended total support to any move designed to create international amity and good will and to eliminate causes of friction. As a member of the United Nations dedicated to the principles of its charter, Pakistan had always tried to foster its faith in the international law and morality and had consistently advocated settlement of disputes by peaceful means. In fact, her solemn dedication to principles and a deep aversion to expediency constitute the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy. That is why Pakistan has been able to resist successfully any pressure from outside to deviate from the principled stand on vital international issues.

To begin with, Pakistan had consistently upheld the Arab cause, especially the Palestinian cause because it is just and based on principles. She had cultivated friendly ties with all countries, especially the Muslim states, consistent with its peaceful universally recognized principles. Wherever any [word indistinct] have occurred that is because Pakistan has reacted adversely against a clear violation of these basic principles. One instance is Afghanistan, where the Russian military presence is in utter violation of the principles of international law and constitutes an assault on the sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan. Yet Pakistan has done nothing to provoke or alienate the Soviet Union with which it has tried to cultivate the best of relations. Indeed, bilateral relations between the two countries had been maintained in the practical sense and were reflected in the continuing

growth of economic and commercial cooperation. Pakistan, however, continued to work for a political solution of the Afghan crisis. It had welcomed the IEC initiative for an international conference on the subject and talks with the personal representative of UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. Pakistan had demonstrated its eagerness for a peaceful solution of the Afghan problem at the Geneva talks, which it hoped will produce some positive result.

With India, Pakistan had always tried to develop friendly ties in order to remove the causes of tension which had bedeviled relations between the two countries for a long time. Under the terms of the Simla agreement both Pakistan and India are committed to a settlement of disputes, including the question of Kashmir, through peaceful means and Pakistan had tried to remain true to the principles of the Simla agreement ever since it was signed in 1972. In order to reinforce these principles Pakistan had offered a no-war pact to India and had made sincere efforts to persuade the Indian leadership that such a pact was in the best interest of the two countries [words indistinct] to ensure peace and tranquillity in the entire region.

Pakistan believes that in the wake of the developments in Afghanistan, both India and Pakistan have the highest stake in strengthening each other and in promoting mutual trust and confidence. Pakistan, as the president has emphasized, wants stability in the region and has no aggressive designs against anyone. Aggression and war lead to chaos and destruction and no country can hope to survive or make any progress unless it sincerely strives to join the quest for international peace and tranquillity.

CSO: 4200/52

MAHBUBUL HAQ INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMY

Karachi DAWN in English Economic and Business Review 26 Sep 82 pp I, IV

[Text]

PAKISTAN's economy is healthier than most economies in the developing world, though it also suffers from major weaknesses. This view was expressed by Dr. Mahbubul Haq, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission who has had the opportunity, as he said, to look at it closely during the last six months.

Dr. Mahbubul Haq, who was Director in the Policy Planning Department of the World Bank before joining his present post, also identified the sources of strength and the elements of weakness in the Pakistan economy and said, "we have to draw on the sources of strength and see how we can cover the weaknesses."

In an hour-long interview with M. Ziauddin of Dawn Economic & Business Review in Islamabad, Dr. Mahbubul Haq responded to about a dozen questions on various aspects of the national economy and spelt out in some detail the governmental policies relating to its different sectors.

Here are excerpts from the interview:

Q: You have observed Pakistan's economy from inside and outside. Would you tell us what exactly is wrong with it, assuming there is something wrong, and what corrective measures you would like to be taken?

A: I have tried to look at this economy from inside for the last six months and I find that there are tremendous sources of strength

and also major weaknesses.

The sources of strength are that we have a healthy production base, we have managed a good growth rate of six per cent a year, there has been good financial management through which inflation rate has been kept down below two digits — 8 per cent this year, we have done extremely well in the agricultural sector, the income distribution in respect of the poor classes has improved — the remittances mostly going to the poorer classes — and zakat has put a safety net below the poorer of the poor, the bottom 15 per cent of the population or about 1.5 million families.

Weaknesses

But there are also weaknesses. The social services are badly neglected. On education and health, we have spent about one-fifth of what other developing countries are spending. We do not have adequate coverage of public services — electricity, water, roads — to rural areas. We have not liberated the economy from controls and regulations. We have not looked after the interests of middle income groups, particularly in urban areas, who see a major erosion in their fixed incomes.

So basically, we have to balance our developmental programmes. We have to continue the momentum of increased production, particularly in the agriculture sector, and create more infrastructure.

Q: It is claimed that the country's economy has been growing at an annual average rate of six per cent. Do you feel this is a realistic assessment?

Growth rate

A: Our real growth rate has been much higher than the official estimates. In fact I have been arguing with my colleagues that officially the growth rate is underestimated. For some major crops like wheat, rice, sugar, cotton there are fairly good estimates. But in many other sectors these are rough estimates and very conservative. For example, construction has been booming. You can just look at the figures of cement consumption and know how construction has been going on, which is logical in any period of inflation. Yet the growth rate that is shown in this sector is very small, because there is an old methodology which ties it down to unrealistic indicators, similarly, in minor crops, fruits, vegetables and many other sectors, some time the growth rate is taken at the same rate as the population growth. It has been the historical methodology. My feeling is that in minor crops, small-scale industries, construction, even in trade, this is underestimated. The real growth in the system has been more, in the neighbourhood of seven to eight per cent.

Q: Would you identify the factors that have contributed to this kind of growth?

A: A number of factors have contributed to it. Better economic management was a major factor. In the case of agriculture, better support prices have meant that farmers made use of fertilisers, seeds and other inputs because now they could get a very good rate of return on their crops. In most cases the prices that farmers receive are either at the level of international prices or even above, like in sugarcane.

Most of the additional growth comes from agriculture. And there it has been a matter of policy changes. Support prices, good subsidy and a good rate of return to farmer. Agriculture is in private hands, they saw the incentives and moved quickly.

There has also been improvement in industry, a nine per cent per annum growth rate. There, it was more a matter of management of public enterprises which improved.

Q: Was this accomplished by changing the objectives of public enterprises from social to

commercial?

A: So far as the social objectives of public enterprises are concerned, they could have been only twofold. One is increased production and the second would be better distribution. As such I cannot understand why we say that public industries, without meeting any of these objectives, were meeting some social objectives. But for the first time they are meeting these objectives because we define them as increase in employment, production, distribution and bonuses to the workers. For the first time we are also setting up performance criteria in social terms for each public enterprise. I do not think industries make major contribution to social objectives by either losing money or by raising prices endlessly.

Q: Are there any concrete plans for implementing your suggestion that a balance should be struck between the private and public sector?

A: Let me try to put this issue in perspective. There are two issues involved. One is the total industrial investment we must have for our future development. At the moment the total industrial investment, both private and public, is only one per cent of the GNP. In other industrialising developing countries it is roughly four per cent of the GNP. So, there is enough room for both public and private sectors. Because our total industrial investment is very low compared to what our future needs are. The dialogue unfortunately has been too much on public versus private. Secondly, I strongly believe that public sector should play only a catalyst role and in many cases it should withdraw, if the private sector is willing to come forward with money, initiative and enterprise. This should create the room for it.

Denationalisation

Q: You have said that a number of industries like vegetable ghee and cement should be given back to the private sector. But so far no progress appears to have been made on this score?

A: The denationalisation issue has to move through several stages. One, you open up all the industries, which have been in the public sector, also to the private sector in fu-

ture. That is what we are doing all along the line whether it is vegetable ghee or cement, except that there will be some industries like the steel mill which we cannot pass on to the private sector.

The second question is what to do with the existing nationalised industry. You cannot denationalise them simultaneously in one year. Supposing today there are 26 ghee industries and you try to sell all of them in one year, there is not enough money to buy them. So there has to be a phased denationalisation, depending on the capacity of the market and for that there must be a conscious policy. In each case there should be a realistic plan of action. Do we want to denationalise? Over what time? What kind of units? And then how are we going to do it?

Thirdly, there is a great limitation at the moment. Probably, there is more desire on the part of the Government to hand over units but there is limited desire on the part of the private sector to buy these units and for obvious reasons, because the private sector has the option to invest in these industries and to take up new units. They can set up their own pattern of investment. Engineering goods industry is going to open up the steel-based industries which have an exciting future. There is agro-industries and other avenues. These are all realistic issues confronting you when you come down to the nitty-gritty of nationalisation issue.

A partnership

Basically, the Government has to spend a lot of resources in the Sixth Plan on both physical and social infrastructure. No government has enough resources to take care of all these legitimate needs and yet be able to look after public industries and a number of other things. Yet a few limited things the Government will be able to do. As such there will be a great keenness on the part of the Government on pragmatic grounds to make the private sector partners in it. They should buy these units, take shares in it, become partners. Whether there will be similar keenness on the part of the private sector, I am not too sure.

Q: Do you think if there is no option, the private sector would consider buying these units more readily?

A: I do not want to impose a ban. It would really be forcing a choice on the private sector, telling them you must take the old units off our hands. We should not dump these units if we cannot run them or if they are inefficient. I think it will be unfair to suggest that no new units be given to the private sector. Let them come in, compete. Competition is the best thing that can happen between the public and private sector.

Deregulation

Q: Is it realistic to talk of deregulation in a planned economy, an economy which is also afflicted with limited resources and shortage of infrastructure facilities and is heavily dependent on borrowed resources?

A: There are two issues here. In any planned economy there are some overall policy regulations that you need to have. But I find that the policy controls are generally weak in this economy. The administrative controls are very strong where discretionary powers come in.

What I mean by policy controls is that we can give guidance to the system. What kind of industrialisation pattern is in the national interest, what kind of concessions and facilities we will give for that, where we will give a tax break and where we will not and then within that policy framework, individual units will come up. There will be a short negative list and some restrictions on capacity in limited consumer item industries. Take for example agriculture. Here we adjusted the support prices of the crop, gave subsidies on various inputs, arranged credits for large and small farmers. In this sector, there has been a major breakthrough.

Now, there is other aspect. There are people who are desperate to get a number of services early because their industry is held up and they are going to suffer a major economic loss if they do not get these services. They are quite willing to pay, under the table, to some people who may have the power to give these services. Here the question is, how far you can use the pricing system to give these services which are in short supply to people who are willing to pay the highest, not to somebody below the table, but directly to the Government

above the table. We are doing it, for example in case of tubewells. There is a subsidy of Rs. 1,500 per tubewell but also we brought in a policy parameter that if somebody wants a tubewell immediately there won't be any subsidy but the connection will be given. So the pricing system can be an instrument to replace the discretion.

And, secondly, of course, the only way to overcome these issues is to remove the scarcity itself, to invest in a major fashion in the infrastructure and remove these shortages. Thirdly in order to help, we would like very much to get the private sector in. If the private sector can set up their own generators, their own thermal stations, even airlines. We are considering a second airline in the private sector.

Q: Not banking?

A: I am talking about infrastructure at the moment, physical infrastructure.

If I may just digress for a minute, in agriculture also the system of rationing is still there on wheat and sugar. We have lived with wheat rationing, for the last 40 years. But if we get into this surplus economy in wheat that we are trying we could have moved towards de-rationing. We are in a position to do that in sugar. So the only real solution for scarcity economy is to remove scarcity. We are trying to see how we can take care of this through more pricing mechanism, rather than through administrative controls.

Sixth Plan

Q: On what kind of model would you like to base the Sixth Plan?

A: The model of development is something that a country evolves according to its needs over time and it keeps changing because the needs of the economy keep changing. But the sense of direction has to remain the same in terms of development plans which is how best to balance a strong production base with a strong social consciousness. How to marry the ends of production and distribution because one without the other will die and wither away. That balance that you bring between production and distribution is where the typical genius of any country comes in. The model for the Sixth Plan is to bring this balance between improvement

in production base and improvement in the lives of the people. That is why we are pursuing two related strategies. We must continue to increase our production by six to seven per cent a year and even more. And at the same time we have to balance it by much greater investment in our social services of education, health, clean water, greater balance between urban and rural areas so that they become full partners in development.

Cost of the Plan

Q: Would you like to tell us how much will it cost to implement such an ambitious Plan?

A: We have very preliminary exercises as to what it is going to cost us to pursue production, infrastructure and social services. The onvestment needs in the Sixth Plan, will be larger compared to the past, for two reasons. One, there has been neglect of infrastructure in the past. There has not been much development in energy, communications or water supply. Secondly, they have increased because we are going to adjust our expenditures in education, health and low income housing.

Q: How are you planning to boost agricultural production?

A: Through a variety of devices. One, a very good rate of return to the farmer on his production. Two, a major improvement in the availability of services to the farmers like electricity, roads and social services. Three, a major improvement in farm mechanisation, particularly small tractors, because 90 per cent of our farmers are small farmers. Four, by opening up the possibility of exports and by organising the marketing system for it so that farmers see an incentive not only to produce for the domestic market but a huge international market. We are one of the few developing countries which have comparative advantage to export food. Not many countries are in this business. They are competing in industrial exports.

Food exports

Q: In view of the existing unfavourable terms of trade for primary commodities, do you think it is possible to get a reasonable return on the prop-

osed investment in agriculture by boosting food exports?

A: You are right, on primary produce the developing countries really get exploited. Today all the developing countries together are getting 50 billion dollars for primary goods exports and the consumers in the developed countries pay about 300 billion dollars for these items — banana, tea, coffee, coco — and in between the 250 billion dollars is taken away by the multinationals who process, ship, advertise and distribute them. These are the international services that the developing countries themselves should organise, the Third World multinationals.

The lesson to be learnt is not that we should not be getting into food exports but we should send them in a more processed form. We should handle the processing. That is why I am keen on village electrification so that agro-industry comes up all over the rural areas. Chain of cold storages everywhere. Marketing services should emerge. Because our markets are very close at hand in the Middle East. That requires skill, management and technology. But there is now a whole new class of educated people who have emerged. Many of them are going outside trying to set up international services in banking, insurance and distribution. Why cannot they do it if this field is opened up here.

Q: How crucially is the Sixth Plan dependent on the negotiations you are having with the World Bank for a five-year consolidation of debts?

A: Let me put it the other way. Pakistan in the Sixth Plan is going to offer to the international community one of the most dynamic societies that may be around in the developing world. I cannot think of many developing countries which will be trying to have six to seven per cent growth rate, where there

will be a gradual liberation of economy from some of these current administrative controls, and which will offer opportunities and markets both domestically and internationally. I will suggest that it will be in the interest of the international community to take a chance in Pakistan's economic future. It is in their interest to ensure that our net assistance, which has dropped to 20 per cent of gross, scales up in the Sixth Plan period. They should find some means, either of consolidating debts and refinancing. We will pay each and every penny of the debt that we will incur. But the idea is to put them together whatever payments we are going to make in five years and say okay we will pay it over a longer period (20 years with five years grace on easy instalments) and that way we get a certain breathing space in which we can manage our affairs and get the needed resources for major investments that we have to make in infrastructure and social services alongside the production base that I was just describing to you. So I won't say that the Sixth Plan is dependent on one particular thing, whether foreign loans, domestic efforts, agricultural breakthrough, infrastructural investments. They come together. It is a very delicate mechanism in any economy or Plan. But this is an important issue for us. And I would suggest that it is a far more important issue for the international community. They should rethink their options in the developing world. It is in their interest that they come through with this consolidation and major relief during a key period which is needed for our major economic breakthrough.

Q: If they don't come through?

A: I never speculate on failure. I always like to speculate on success. We are always prepared for the worst but we never speculate on it.

TAIWAN BUSINESS DELEGATION IN KARACHI--QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT ENTRY

Karachi DAWN in English Economic and Business Review 26 Sep 82 pp I, IV

[Article by Shaheen Sehba]

[Text]

A GROUP OF businessmen from Taiwan has just completed a fortnight's visit to Karachi reportedly on the invitation of a private import-export firm though all their efforts to gain official patronage met with a firm refusal.

The group and its Pakistani host, however, succeeded in meeting local exporters and importers to discuss trade prospects, especially import of Taiwan-make goods in Pakistan.

The businessmen last week also met an official of the Export Promotion Bureau but EPB sources later described it as a purely "courtesy call."

According to informed sources a meeting between the Taiwanese and the Karachi Chamber of Commerce officials was arranged on September 20 at the instance of the EPB but it was cancelled shortly before it could materialise.

An EPB official told DAWN. The meeting had been inadvertently arranged by the Bureau as a "routine." It is normal practice that when a visiting delegation seeks meetings with trade bodies, the EPB makes the appointments, without referring the matter to higher authorities. This was done in this case as well.

"But when the EPB high-ups came to know that the traders were from Taiwan, they immediately pulled out of the matter and in-

formed the Karachi Chamber to cancel the meeting immediately."

"The EPB did not want itself to be involved with the Taiwanese in any way," a senior official said.

The firm which played host to the delegation is believed to maintain the position that it was "one of the many delegations which come off and on from China."

Officials of the firm would not admit that they belonged to Taiwan, but had no answer to the question as to why the visit was kept so secret.

An EPB official said the firm had persistently tried to enlist EPB patronage and wanted the EPB to entertain the delegation members like a trade delegation from any other country. This was firmly declined.

A market survey shows that goods made in Taiwan have made an increasing appearance in the last few months, although Pakistan has no official trade with Taiwan.

Business circles say many importers get Taiwanese goods through dealers in Hong Kong and Singapore and these goods reach here with "Made in Taiwan" stamps clear and visible.

The 1982-83 Import Policy of Pakistan, however, does not exclude Taiwan as a banned country like Israel and South Africa. Goods originating in these countries cannot be imported here but Taiwan does not appear to fall in this category.

This was probably the first at-

tempt by Taiwanese businessmen to seek a tacit official patronage for boosting Pak-Taiwan trade on a bilateral basis, though on an unofficial level.

The main question that arises however is how these businessmen got into Pakistan because Pakistan does not recognize Taiwan. No travel facilities exist between the two either.

Business sources say the visit was in response to similar visits paid by some Pakistani traders in the past and since Taiwan did not object to the entry of Pakistanis, it was so arranged that the Taiwanese did not face any problem while visiting Pakistan.

One possible explanation available was that since Taiwanese carried passports of "Republic of China", the name Taiwan uses, our immigration people could have not have detected the difference between the "Republic" and the People's Republic and let them in.

The question of how and where they got their visas to visit Pakistan still remains a mystery. Part of the answer should be known to the Pakistani host firms and also in official circles.

CSO: 4200/27

POLITICAL AGENT SHOT DEAD

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Sept 25 Political Agent, North Waziristan, Mr. Abdul Hamid, and a Jawan of Tochi Scouts, were reportedly shot dead by a group of apparently tribal miscreants in Karkanrwam, while the deceased were performing official duties, says an official Press Note issued here today.

The Press Note said, on Sept 23 an official jeep while on its way from Janer post near Bichikashakan to Meer Ali in North Waziristan was stopped by the miscreants and the officers travelling in the jeep were deprived of their belongings including a rifle.

On receipt of information that these miscreants have taken refuge in Karkanrwam, North Waziristan, the Political Agent, North Waziristan, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan, alongwith commandant and a small contingent of Tochi Scouts immediately rushed towards

Karkanrwam via Bannu. The miscreants on seeing the party started firing, as a result of which the Political Agent and a Jawan of Tochi Scouts were killed and four others sustained injuries.

The injured were rushed to the nearest hospital for medical treatment.

The Commissioner, D. I. Khan and other officials have arrived in Bannu to supervise the situation.

The provincial Government has paid glowing tributes to late Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan, who sacrificed his life in the discharge of his official duties. The Press Note lauded his devotion, dedication and dutifulness and placed on record the highest appreciation of his dutifulness.

Late Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan was buried in his native graveyard in D. I. Khan, this afternoon.

CSO: 4200/27

SIND GOVERNOR SAYS KILLERS OF BHOPALI ALMOST IDENTIFIED

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 pp 1, 11

[Text]

Lt Gen S M Abbasi, Governor of Sind, said in Karachi on Saturday that the alleged killer of late Zahoorul Hassan Bhopali had "almost 90 per cent" been identified.

Talking to newsmen during the tea break at the Sind Provincial Council meeting the Governor said "in our view the killers are still hiding in the city".

He said that the Sind Police through the help and cooperation of a Federal agency, worked out a sketch of the alleged killers with the help of the "identikit". The eye witnesses have borne out the sketch to be that of the alleged killer, he added. He said the administration was considering whether to publicise that sketch and put it on display at public places and also to release it to the media in order to lay the arms of the law on him.

Replying to a question, the Governor said he was fully satisfied with the todate progress made by the police into Mr Bhopali's murder.

He didn't agree with certain Press reports in which it was suggested that a high police official's attitude was blocking the progress of the investigation. "It's not a matter of files only", the Governor said, adding that the police was doing more field work than the file work. He said through the investigative progress, the police had succeeded in identifying the particular terrorist group, to which the alleged killer belonged.

When asked to name that particular terrorist group, Gen Abbasi said the national dailies had already published reports about it. The Governor also said that Mr Bhopali's murder was due to political feud.

Ilyas Siddiqi

He said that the third murdered man, who remained unidentified for a few days after the crime, was Ilyas Siddiqi beyond any shadow of doubt. It may be mentioned here that Ilyas Siddiqi was one of 54 prisoners, who were flown out to Damascus on the demand of the hijackers of the PLA Boeing in March, last year.

The Governor said that Ilyas Siddiqi's involvement and also the use of foreign weapons in the crime proved well that it was not the work of any local group or people.

To a question whether the alleged killers had fled the city, the Governor said that the administration viewed that they were still present in the city.

Asked for his comments on the failure of the police to check the re-entry of Ilyas Siddiqi in Pakistan, Gen Abbasi said that the police could not be blamed for that. Watch on the movement of individuals in a city of over five and half million population was not possible. Moreover, such persons had been entering Pakistan from Kabul.

PI adds: A correspondent asked whether Ilyas Siddiqi was trying to seek amnesty through Mr Zahoorul Hassan Bhopali the Governor replied not to my knowledge.

The Governor said detailed investigations are being made and as a result of these a sketch of the culprit has been drawn to arrest him at the earliest.

To another question, Gen Abbasi said a detailed discussion will be held on law and order situation in the province in today's (Sunday) session of the Sind Council. He said the House will be apprised of the measures taken to improve the general law and order situation.

Great patriot

The Governor also made mention of Zahoorul Hassan Bhopali's assassination during his speech, while inaugurating the two-day session of the Council. Late Bhopali, he added, was a victim of a terrorist group. He paid tributes to him and said that this young man was a great patriot and supporter of the ideology of Pakistan.

The Governor remarked that the trends of terrorist activities are currently increasing in several parts of the world.

Gen Abbasi also referred to the tragic death of another Majlis-i-Shoora Member — Jibreel Siddiqi of Hyderabad who died in a road accident recently.

CSO: 4200/27

GRAPHITE FROM AZAD KASHMIR TO BE AVAILABLE FROM NEXT YEAR

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 p 4

[Excerpt]

RAWALAKOT, Sept 25: The supply of graphite to Pakistan from the newly discovered deposits in Azad Jammu and Kashmir is likely to commence from the third quarter of 1983.

This was disclosed by President Brig Mohammad Hayat Khan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir while informally talking to newsmen here on Thursday. He said the PCSIR Laboratories at Lahore will provide details of the technology and machinery required for the purpose, most of which will consist of locally manufactured components the whole work will be complete by June 1983 and production start, he added.

On this occasion an Managing Director of AKMIDC (Azad Kashmir Minerals and Industrial Development Corporation) who also present, disclosed that graphite samples, have been duly tested and found to be nearly 95 per cent pure.

According to initial estimates, a total of 1.5 million metric tonnes of graphite deposits are present in the discovery area.

The AJK President said very high quality of rubies have also been discovered in the state.

CSO: 4200/27

RIFTS REPORTED IN PPP IN UNITED KINGDOM, EUROPE

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 p 14

[Text]

LONDON, Sept 25: The intra-party rift in PPP (overseas) has created some serious problems for the party organisers not only in U.K., but in some West European countries as well.

The party sources in London are deeply worried over the situation which, according to them, is the result of personal differences between the leaders of various groups. Some party workers who belong to Khar group have started a whispering campaign against Dr Ghulam Hussain that he had no authority to call himself secretary general of the party, while the supporter of Ghulam Hussain group disapproved of the feudalistic manner of handling of party affairs by Mr Khar.

Recently some rallies and meetings arranged by the party in U.K. and elsewhere were boycotted by one or the other faction and its leader mainly due to internal feud.

Dr Ghulam Hussain has failed to get any support in the UK. He has also not been able to get a foothold in the West European countries.

A reliable party source has disclosed that in order to strengthen his position Mr Khar has been trying to establish liaison with some foreign countries. Only a couple of months ago he had a long meeting with a senior Russian diplomat in Paris. Khar group is attaching great importance to this meeting.

It is learnt that the different groups are making necessary preparations to present their case when begum Bhutto visits London and some places in Europe in near future.

TEHRIK TO TAKE PART IN MRD MEETINGS

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 p 14

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Sept 25: Defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal would henceforth participate in the MRD meetings at all levels, but without accepting the offices in its permanent structure.

This was stated today by Syed Munir Shah Acting President of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal, after receiving positive reply from Air Marshal (Retd) M. Asghar Khan from his residence where he is under house arrest.

According to him, Asghar Khan impressed upon him that he is not willing to interfere in party decisions, made on consensus. Syed Munir Shah, who had recently presided the meeting of National Working Committee of the party at Peshawar categorically refused any signs of division in the said meeting on MRD issue. Instead, he said all decisions that it took were bearing total consent of the entire body.

He said the committee had unanimously decided to remain within the folds of MRD, extending its wholehearted cooperation in the struggle for restoration of democracy in the country. It however, was of the opinion that since the establishment of a permanent secretariat of the MRD was in contravention of four-point declaration of the MRD, Tehrik should not accept any office in the new structure. It further decided to carry on accepting the offices of conveners which come by rotation every month.—PPI

MRS BHUTTO'S MEDICAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO ZIA

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Sep 82 p 14

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Sept 25: The medical report of Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto regarding her recent illness has been submitted to President General M. Zia-ul-Haq by the Federal Ministry of Interior, it is reliably learnt.

Mrs. Bhutto, desirous of seeking medical treatment abroad, had asked the Government permission.

A detailed report showing various stages of her illness along with a private doctor's recommendation has also been submitted by her along with the request to travel abroad.

Her medical report, after it was carefully reviewed by the Interior Ministry, was moved to the Ministry of Health for technical comments.

The Interior Ministry is learnt to have later sent Mrs. Bhutto's request for medical treatment abroad to President General M. Zia-ul-Haq without comments from the Health Ministry.

Meanwhile, biopsy test of Mrs. Bhutto, performed by a pathologist in Lahore, had reportedly hinted the presence of cancer germs.

CSO: 4200/27

BRIEFS

AFGHAN TALKS--Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said indirect talks on Afghanistan are to be resumed by the end of this month or in the second half of next month when the special representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan visits the area. His visit is expected to take place after the general assembly's debate on Afghanistan issue which is likely later during the session. The foreign minister was talking to newsmen on his return to Islamabad this morning after attending the first 3 weeks of the current session of the UN General Assembly. In reply to a question about the proposed nonaggression pact with India he said the next round of talks between the foreign secretaries of the two countries are to be resumed in December next. Although these talks could not be expected to achieve a spectacular or quick breakthrough, the two sides would certainly prepare the ground and consolidate the work that has already been done in this regard. Pakistan's endeavor in the normalization of relations with India, he added, was based on step-by-step approach. About the Iran-Iraq war he said Pakistan has made it clear to both the countries that it will be prepared to help bring at any time an end to the conflict. Referring to the Israeli aggression in Lebanon he said it has been of a major concern to Pakistan. About Pakistan's candidature for the Asian seat in the Security Council the foreign minister said they [as heard] had a good case and reasonable expectation of successes. [Text] [BK141149 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 14 Oct 82]

CSO: 4200/52

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

UAE ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--'Abd al-'Aziz Nasir al-'Uwayti, who has been appointed as first ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United Arab Emirates to Sri Lanka with residence in New Delhi, has presented his letter of credence to President J.R. Jayewardene, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on 30 September. [Text] [BK071305 Colombo SUN in English 1 Oct 82 p 3]

CSO: 4200/51

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